

# REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS

Week ending the 30th November 1895.

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Nil.

## LIST OF NEW SPAPERS.

No.	Names of Newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.
<b>BENGALI.</b>					
<i>Tri-monthly.</i>					
1	"Abodh Bodhini" ...	Calcutta	About 677		
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Banganivasi" ...	Ditto	" 5,000	22nd November 1895.	
2	"Bangavasi" ...	Ditto	" 20,000	23rd ditto.	
3	"Hitaishi" ...	Ditto	.....	19th ditto.	
4	"Hitavadi" ...	Ditto	" 4,000	22nd ditto.	
5	"Mihir-o-Sudhakar" ...	Ditto	.....	16th and 23rd Nov. 1895.	
6	"Sahachar" ...	Ditto	About 500	20th November 1895.	
7	"Samay" ...	Ditto	" 4,000	22nd ditto.	
8	"Sanjivani" ...	Ditto	" 3,000	23rd ditto.	
9	"Som Prakash" ...	Ditto	" 800	18th ditto.	
<i>Daily.</i>					
1	"Banga Vidya Prakashika" ...	Ditto	" 200	27th and 28th November 1895.	
2	"Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika" ...	Ditto	" 200	20th and 21st and 24th to 27th November 1895.	
3	"Samvad Prabhakar" ...	Ditto	" 500	25th November 1895.	
4	"Samvad Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto	" 200		
5	"Sulabh Dainik" ...	Ditto	" 1,000	22nd, 23rd, 25th, and 26th to 23th November 1895.	
<b>HINDI.</b>					
<i>Weekly.</i>					
1	"Bharat Mitra" ...	Ditto	" 800	21st November 1895.	
2	"Hindi Bangavasi" ...	Ditto	" 9,000	25th ditto.	
3	"Uchit Vakta" ...	Ditto	.....		
<i>Daily.</i>					
1	"Dainik Bharat Mitra" ...	Ditto	.....	20th, 22nd, 25th and 26th November 1895.	



No.	Names of Newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.
PERSIAN.					
Weekly.					
1	"Hublul Mateen" ...	Calcutta	.....	20th November 1895.	
URDU.					
Weekly.					
1	"Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide."	Ditto	About 400	21st November 1895.	
2	"General and Gauharisafi"	Ditto	300	15th ditto.	
BENGALI.					
Fortnightly.					
1	"Bankura Darpan"	Bankura	500	16th November 1895.	
2	"Uluberia Darpan"	Uluberia	298		
Weekly.					
1	"Burdwan Sanjivani"	Burdwan	350 to 400	19th November 1895.	
2	"Chinsura Vartavaha"	Chinsura	500	17th and 24th November 1895.	
3	"Darsak"	Ditto	.....	24th November 1895.	
4	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	754	22nd ditto.	
BENGALI.					
Monthly.					
1	"Ghosak"	Khulna	350		
Weekly.					
1	"Murshidabad Hitaishi"	Murshidabad	280	20th November 1895.	
2	"Murshidabad Pratinidhi"	Berhampore	200	22nd ditto.	
3	"Pratikar"	Ditto	603	22nd ditto.	
URIYA.					
Monthly.					
1	"Brahma"	Cuttack	.....		
2	"Indradhanu"	Ditto	.....		
3	"Shikshabandhu"	Ditto	.....		
4	"Utkalprabha"	Mayurbhunj	8	.....	
Weekly.					
1	"Sambalpur Hitaishini"	Bamra in the Central Provinces.	.....	.....	Only six copies have been issued since the paper was revived in January 1894. Some 200 copies of each issue are said to have been circulated, but no subscribers have been registered. This paper is said to have some circulation in the Division, but the number of subscribers could not be ascertained.
2	"Samvad Vahika"	Balasore	190	17th October 1895.	
3	"Uriya and Navasamvad"	Ditto	309	16th ditto.	
4	"Utkal Dipika"	Cuttack	412	19th ditto.	
HINDI.					
Monthly.					
1	"Bihar Bandhu"	Bankipur	500		
Weekly.					
1	"Aryavarta"	Dinapur	1,000		



No.	Names of Newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.	REMARKS.	
URDU.						
Weekly.						
1	"Akhbar-i-Al Punch" ...	Bankipur ...	500	18th November 1895.		
2	"Gaya Punch" ...	Gaya ...	400			
3	"Mehre Monawar" ...	Muzaffarpur ...	150			
BENGALI.						
Weekly.						
RAJSHAHÍ DIVISION.						
1	"Bagura Darpan" ...	Bogra ...	.....	30th November 1895.		
2	"Hindu Ranjika" ...	Boalia, Rajshahi ...	283			
3	"Rangpur Dikprakash" ...	Kakina, Rangpur ...	300			
HINDI.						
Monthly.						
1	"Darjeeling Mission ke Masik Samachar Patrika."	Darjeeling ...	150	.....	It is said that 550 copies of the paper are printed each month. Out of this number 150 copies are distributed among the subscribers, and the rest sold to the public at three pies per copy.	
BENGALI.						
Fortnightly.						
DACCA DIVISION.						
1	"Kasipur Nivasi" ...	Kasipur, Barisal ...	280			
Weekly.						
1	"Charu Mihir" ...	Mymensingh ...	900	19th November 1895.		
2	"Dacca Prakash" ...	Dacca ...	450	17th ditto.		
3	"Saraswat Patra" ...	Do. ...	250	23rd ditto.		
4	"Vikrampur" ...	Lauhajangha, Dacca ..	500	21st ditto.		
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.						
Weekly.						
1	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Dacca ...	500	25th ditto.		
BENGALI.						
CHITTAGONG DIVISION.						
Fortnightly.						
1	"Tripura Prakash" ...	Comilla ...	.....			
Weekly.						
1	"Sansodhini" ...	Chittagong ...	120			
BENGALI.						
Fortnightly.						
ASSAM.						
1	"Paridarshak-o-Srihattavasi"	Sylhet ...	.....			



## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* of the 16th November writes as follows on the Armenian question :—

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,  
Nov. 16th, 1895.

The Armenian question.

The Commissioners, who were appointed to enquire into, and report upon, the Armenian massacres, reported that the Armenians had, in the first instance, not only refused to pay taxes, but also killed some innocent Turks, and then prepared themselves for a fight when the Sultan sent troops to restore order in their country. No one will dispute that the rebels deserved punishment. But it may be asked why, in chastising the rebels, did the Sultan kill innocent Armenians? The answer is that history does not furnish any instance in which a rebellion has been suppressed without some sacrifice of innocent lives. Take, for instance, the Indian Sepoy Mutiny. Who does not remember how cruelly many innocent parents were put to death before the eyes of their children on that occasion? Those who have carefully and impartially studied the disastrous incidents of the Mutiny will remember them with horror till the end of their lives. Indeed, no one can say how many hundreds of poor Indians had to die a premature death on account of the Sepoy Mutiny, flooding their country with their innocent blood. So long as the incidents of the Mutiny remain recorded in the annals of India, the people of this country will not forget the clemency and forbearance (?) which the British Government showed on the occasion.

Did the Turkish Government in putting down the rebellion commit any such oppression upon the Armenians as plundering or appropriating their property, sending into exile any innocent Armenian, or compelling any of them to embrace Islam? Far from doing any such thing, the Sultan did not even close offices of State to his Armenian subjects. All that the English press can urge in favour of the Armenians is that they have been for a long time oppressed and harassed in various ways by the Kurds, and that the Turkish officials, instead of checking these oppressions, have given the Kurds facilities for continuing them. But any one who knows the real relation between the Armenians and the Kurds, the former a class of rich and powerful traders and usurers, whose rapacious exactions have ground down the latter, the great majority of whom are poor cultivators, will find nothing unusual or unnatural in the oppression of the Armenians by the Kurd.

2. The *Education Gazette* of the 22nd November says that it will be for India's benefit if Japan's new life and energy lead her to develop her commerce and create a market for her goods in this country. For, with European

EDUCATION GAZETTE,  
Nov. 22nd, 1895.

The probable effect of the  
Japano-Chinese war upon India

machinery, cheaper labour and lighter freight charges, Japan will certainly be able to undersell England and the other European countries which now sell their goods in India. It is probable, therefore, that Manchester's monopoly in this country in respect of cotton-goods will, in course of time, be destroyed by Japan just as she has almost destroyed the Swedish match trade in India. But when that time comes, the British Government will realise the evil effects of free trade, and in order to put a stop to Japanese merchandise finding a way to India, it will, in all probability, impose heavy import duties in this country.

3. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* of the 23rd November writes as follows :—

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,  
Nov. 23rd, 1895.

The Turkish imbroglio.

In what an evil moment did the Sultan repose confidence in the loyalty of the Christian Armenians and place them in charge of his territories. He, of his own motion, gave them rights and privileges, not a hundredth part of which has been yet conceded by the Christian monarchs of Europe to their foreign subjects. Yet, it is these European monarchs who are giving the Sultan no rest until he grants his Armenian subjects still greater privileges.

From the preparations which are being made by the European Powers, it is evident that a war is inevitable. Russia, England, France, Italy, Germany and even far off America are concentrating their forces near Turkey, leaving the Sultan no alternative but to make warlike preparations in his turn. Some Musalman subjects of His Majesty are also giving him trouble, necessitating the despatch of a body of troops to suppress their revolt. But Europe's attitude has not frightened the Sultan, who, like a hero, is making preparations for a war. However weak Turkey may be, the Christians will not be able to take it



without bloodshed or without the sacrifice of thousands of Christian lives. Everybody who knows the incidents of the last Russo-Turkish war, must be aware of Turkey's chivalry and prowess, though, in the present case, surrounded as she is by all the European Powers, it may be difficult for her to succeed against them.

BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 23rd, 1895.

4. In Europe, observes the *Bangavasi* of the 23rd November, whenever there is a quarrel between one Power and another, the quarrel generally ends in brave words and blustering, but where it is a weak nation that offends a great Power, war is at once declared. France can make war with Madagascar, but she cannot make war with Germany. England can fight with the Indian frontier tribes or with Ashantee, but she cannot venture to declare a war against France. The European Powers may wage war with Turkey if they are so minded, for Turkey is weak. In Europe there takes place rarely, if ever, a war between two powerful nations. Germany defeated France more by chance than by anything else, because France was unprepared and had become weakened by the misrule of a bad king. All the European Powers are in a state of war, but no war is likely to take place. But this state of preparation is impoverishing the people and is creating discontent among them.

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

### (a)—Police.

BANKURA DARPAN,  
Nov. 16th, 1895.

5. The *Bankura Darpan* of the 16th November notices with regret the transfer of Babu Hiralal Sinha, Police Inspector of Bankura, to the Nadia district. Babu Hiralal is an able and honest officer, and while in Bankura never accepted presents from anybody. He always kept a sharp eye on the work of his subordinates.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
Nov. 19th, 1895.

6. Referring to the prompt action taken by the Inspector-General of Police, Punjab, in punishing the offending police officers in the Tarantaran case, and issuing a circular warning his subordinates against the commission of similar offences, the *Burdwan Sanjivani* of the 19th November observes that the head of the police in Bengal does not, however, show, like the head of the Punjab police, commendable zeal in punishing offending police officers. On the other hand, the authorities in Bengal are in the habit of always taking the side of the police in its wrong doing. In the Bhawanipur police case, for instance, the police authorities left no stone unturned in defending the offending police officers, and when the latter were convicted and punished by the Court, the authorities did not think it necessary to dismiss them from service. The retiring Lieutenant-Governor always made it a point to take offending police officers under his protecting wings, and his subordinates in the executive service following in the wake of their Chief do not even hesitate to find fault with judicial officers whenever they happen to differ from the opinion of the police in the trial of cases. Thus encouraged, the police persists in its wrong doing, and police oppression has grown rampant in the country.

The way the police in Bengal oppresses people in order to extort confession is shameful in the extreme. Police officers confine grown-up brothers and sisters naked in the same room. They strip mothers and grown-up sons naked and tie them down hand and foot together. The Judges and Magistrates of old knew the kind of stuff that the police was made of, and an old and experienced Civilian once plainly told the writer that a case in which the accused was said to have made a confession invariably excited his suspicion. But now-a-days the Government places greater reliance in the police than in the Judges and Magistrates. This policy has proved disastrous to the efficient administration of the country.

CHARU MIHIR,  
Nov. 19th, 1895.

7. The *Charu Mihir* of the 19th November hopes that the District Magistrate and the District Superintendent of Police, Mymensingh, and the Subdivisional Officer of Tangail will make a proper enquiry into the Kedarpur outrage case. Owing to the indifference or worthlessness of the police, outrage of female modesty has become a very common crime in the Mymensingh district. It ought to be the first duty of the authorities to check the *baamashes* who commit this crime.



8. A correspondent of the same paper says that on the 2nd November last, at about 10 or 11 P.M., some notorious *badmashes* forcibly took away the wife of Kinu Sekh of Sonakanda, in the Tangail subdivision of the Mymensingh district, from her father's house at Singuria, and detained her in Mainda. After recovering his wife, Kinu Sekh has instituted a case against the *badmashes* in the Tangail Criminal Court. The writer has learnt from a reliable source that some bad characters of Gokulnagar were implicated in the crime. It will be remembered that when Mr. Barada Charan Mitra, late Joint-Magistrate of Tangail, came to Gokulnagar on one occasion and ordered the arrest of some criminals who had absconded, one of them on being arrested threw the daroga into the river. It is hoped the Subdivisional Officer of Tangail will properly punish the *badmashes* this time and check further oppressions by them.

CHARU MITRA,  
Nov. 19th, 1894.

9. Another correspondent of the same paper says that a number of *hajang bairagis* have made their appearance between Lakshmipur and Panchgaon, in the Netrakona subdivision of the Mymensingh district, and are cheating ignorant people of their money by volunteering to act as their agents in their law suits. They also commit various oppressions on suitors who fail to meet their exorbitant demands. The Subdivisional Officer of Netrakona is requested to depute some responsible officer to enquire into the matter and check the oppression.

CHARU MITRA.

10. The same paper fails to understand what has led the authorities to promote Babu Harish Chandra Guha Thakurta, Sub-Inspector of the Jamalpur Police, in the Mymensingh district, to the post of Inspector of Police, Backergunge. When Mr. Phillips was the Magistrate of Mymensingh, Babu Harish Chandra was the Court Sub-Inspector there, and in the Suryyakanta case served that officer with the utmost zeal. It was, indeed, owing to his implicit reliance on the Court Sub-Inspector that Mr. Phillips was led to commit so many errors in connection with that case. However, the Court Sub-Inspector went on making money and achieving distinction so long as Mr. Phillips remained in Mymensingh. But after Mr. Phillips' transfer, a charge of bribery was brought against the Sub-Inspector. He was suspended, pending the result of his trial. At this time Harish Babu assumed an air of sanctimoniousness and took to a life of asceticism, which he renounced as soon as the case had been disposed of in his favour. He was re-instated in Government service, and transferred to Jamalpur as the Police Sub-Inspector of that place. He has been in Jamalpur for one year only, but within this short time he has made the Jamalpur people smart under his oppressions and high-handed acts. His acts of oppression were more than once referred to in this paper, but neither Mr. Earle, the Magistrate, nor Mr. Thomas, the District Superintendent of Police, took any notice of them. As Harish Babu had been the most faithful henchman of Mr. Phillips, it is probable that the complaints against him were considered by Mr. Thomas to have been instigated by Raja Suryyakanta. But he would have found out his mistake if he had made a proper enquiry into the matter. The writer has learnt that though Harish Babu has been in Jamalpur for one year only, on a salary of Rs. 60 per month, and has had to maintain a family, still within this short period, he has purchased gold ornaments and jewels to the value of about one thousand rupees, and has paid some five or six hundred rupees to his *guru*. Indeed, the Jamalpur people have been startled at his high style of living. There will be found a very large quantity of valuable jack-tree timber in his house in Jamalpur, which he collected by forcibly cutting down people's jack trees and appropriating the timber to himself.

CHARU MITRA.

11. A correspondent of the *Vikrampur* of the 21st November says that some articles having been stolen from the lodgings of Babu Sarat Chandra Basu, Sub-Inspector of Police, Munshiganj, the officer suspected some boys who put up with a certain pleader of the place. On his chasing the boys when he found them in the street, in order to catch and chastise them, the boys jumped into an adjoining collection of water. The pleader having remonstrated with the Sub-Inspector for treating the boys in this manner, the Sub-Inspector

VIKRAMPUR,  
Nov. 21st, 1894.

The Sub-Inspector of Police,  
Munshiganj.



abused him. A respectable mukhtar who wanted to speak to Sarat Babu, on the subject, was also abused. The pleader brought a charge against the Sub-Inspector, but the latter having made an apology, he withdrew it. The case should not have been compounded, for the composition of the case which had been brought against the Sub-Inspector by Harimohan Kundu, of the Rajbari, probably emboldened him to conduct himself as he did towards the pleader.

VIKRAMPUR,  
Nov. 21st, 1895.

The new arrangement for collecting the chaukidari cess in Vkrampur in the Dacca district.

12. The same paper says that the new arrangement, in the Vkrampur pargana in the Dacca district under which one collecting panchayet is to collect the chaukidari cess of eight to ten villages, will lead to the oppression of the poorer cess-payers. The panchayet, having to collect the cesses of so many villages, will not be able to see to the convenience of the inhabitants, or feel any delicacy in realising the cess by any means at the appointed time from villages other than his own.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 22nd, 1895.

Oppressions at Tarakesvar.

13. The *Hitavadi* of the 22nd November hears that poor pilgrims to Tarakesvar are oppressed in various ways by the Mahanta and his creatures. It has become almost impossible for pilgrims of this class to present votive offerings at the shrine.

SAMAY,  
Nov. 22nd, 1895

14. The *Samay* of the 22nd November writes that, on the 17th November last, a native was badly wounded in Budge-Budge by a gunshot. A European Assistant in the Bowree Jute Mill was out sporting, and a shot from his gun missed its aim and struck the poor man, who has been taken to hospital and is in a precarious condition. The District Superintendent of Police, 24-Parganas, is making an inquiry into the case. But the result of the inquiry can be easily anticipated. The European accused will not have to suffer in the least, even if the injured man dies in the hospital. A *Bhutiya* slightly wounded a European in Darjeeling with a *kukri*, and it has been proposed to bring the *kukri* under the purview of the Arms Act. But what has been done to put an end to the accidental deaths of natives by shots fired from the guns of Europeans?

SAMAY.

15. The same paper cites a typical case to show how the prostitution of girls is increasing at a rapid rate in this country, and how the police is quite indifferent in the matter, and does not make the least attempt to check the growth of the evil. One Gouri Dasi, of Bali, in the Howrah district, complained to the Deputy Magistrate of Howrah that their priest, one Adhar by name, had come to her mother, and made an immoral proposal to her, and on her declining to agree to it, tried by force to make her submit to his will. The complainant, who is a girl of thirteen or fourteen, also said, in the course of her deposition, that she was on good terms with her husband with whom she had been living before she had, only a month ago, come to lodge with her mother. Her husband used to pay her visits in her present place of residence. The husband, however, who was summoned to give evidence in the case, gave a lie direct to the story of the complainant, and said that she had been living apart from him for the last year and-a-half as a public prostitute. On the strength of the husband's evidence, the Court acquitted the accused. There is nothing very improbable in what the husband said. The fact is that prostitution of girls is increasing at a rapid rate. There is nothing to check it—there seems to be no one responsible for the growth of the evil. The legislators have made the law, and there the matter seems to have ended. Under the law it is a crime to cohabit with a girl under age even with her consent. There is no doubt that the complainant in the case is aged only thirteen or fourteen years. She carries on prostitution in a room close to the local police-station. Yet the police did not think it their duty to interfere. Thus young girls are allowed to carry on prostitution without let or hindrance, and the police is sadly indifferent.

SAMAY.

16. Prasanna Kamar Chukravarti of Jadavpur, a village in the 24-Parganas district, writes in the same paper that on the 25th October last a daring theft took place in his house. The thieves cut a hole in the room of the correspondent's widowed sister, who had been living with him. When she was about to give the alarm she was gagged, and her property, estimated at about one thousand rupees, was carried away. The Sub-Inspector of

Theft in Jadavpur in the 24-Parganas district.



Police, of the Deganga police-station, is making an inquiry into the case, but about two weeks have passed without the offenders being detected. More competent police officers should be sent to make an inquiry.

17. Murders of natives by Europeans out hunting, observes the *Bangani* of the 22nd November, have become pretty frequent of late. Willingly or unwillingly natives are killed by Europeans. A native's life seems to have no value, it counts for nothing. The native editors cry for justice, but their cry proves a cry in the wilderness. The number of these murders is growing every day, blue books and sporting circulars notwithstanding. The alleged carelessness and negligence of native-killing European hunters seem to have become almost constitutional with them. On the 17th November last, a native was killed at Budge-Budge in the 24-Parganas district by a shot fired from the gun of a European assistant in the Bowrea Jute Mill, who had gone out hunting. The injured man is lying in hospital in a precarious condition. Mr. Gordon, the Assistant Police Superintendent, is making an inquiry into the case. The result of the inquiry, however, can be easily anticipated.

BANGANIVASI,  
Nov. 22nd, 1895.

18. The *Pratihar* of the 22nd November says that some years ago there was a quarrel between the Hindus and the Musalmans of Beldanga, in the Murshidabad district, on the occasion of the Durga Puja festival. This year the Musalmans objected to the Hindus taking their god *Kartik* for consignment to the river to the accompaniment of music. The man, who was Sub-Inspector of Police in Beldanga when the first quarrel occurred, has again been posted to the place, and the people are asking why quarrels take place only when he is the Sub-Inspector.

PRATIKAR,  
Nov. 22nd, 1895.

19. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* of the 23rd November publishes a petition submitted to the District Magistrate of Burdwan by Maulvi Ata Elahi on the subject of a quarrel which took place among some low class Muhammadans in his native village of Gotista within the jurisdiction of the Mangalkot thana in the Burdwan district, and which resulted in two women being seriously hurt, one of whom has since succumbed to her wounds. The Police Sub-Inspector of Mangalkot took no cognisance of the affair when it was reported to him by the injured party. The writer hopes that the Deputy Magistrate of Katwa, who has been charged with the investigation of the case, will do his duty carefully. If the case is proved to be true, the District Superintendent of Police ought to take severe notice of the conduct of the Sub-Inspector, whose promotion has already been stopped for some former offence.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,  
Nov. 23rd, 1895.

20. The *Sanjivani* of the 23rd November writes as follows:—  
Has Musalman misrule come back in our midst? During the last days of the Musalman rule in India, it was difficult for women to keep their chastity inviolate. But what is this we see? The ruffianly Musalmans of east Bengal have proved a terror to Hindu women. The Ashtami Snan cases are still fresh in the public memory, and here we have got a few instances more of brutal assault committed on Hindu women by Musalman *budmashes*. In Dubail, under the jurisdiction of the Harirampur thana in the Dacca district, one Wafsuiddi Shaikh committed rape in broad day light on a Hindu woman in a maidan. The man was prosecuted, and has been convicted and sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for seven years. But the Government should take speedy measures to nip oppression by the ruffianly east Bengal Musalmans in the bud. The police should be advised to be on the alert and put down these acts of oppression with a high hand. The ruffianly Musalmans should know that they will no longer be allowed to commit such acts of oppression with impunity. But the police seems to be at present quite helpless. The ruffianly Musalmans of Bajandarpara, in the Faridpur district, have not yet been brought to justice. This is really shameful. And if this state of things is allowed to continue, the chastity of women in Bengal will be seriously jeopardised.

SANJIVANI,  
Nov. 23rd, 1895.



DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 24th, 1895.

21. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 24th November draws the attention of the authorities to the prevalence of *gunda* oppression in Harrison Road, owing to the road being very insufficiently lighted. Arrangements should be made for properly lighting the road, and it should be seen that it is efficiently patrolled by the police.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

CHINSURA  
VARTAVAHA,  
Nov. 17th, 1895.

22. The *Chinsura Vartavaha* of the 17th November observes that recently the Officiating Presidency Magistrate of Calcutta sentenced a betel-nut stealer to two weeks' rigorous imprisonment, while Andrew Anderson, who was charged with causing the death of Bhagai Uriya, was acquitted. Such miscarriage of justice can occur only in India.

CHARU MIHIR,  
Nov. 19th, 1895.

23. The *Charu Mihir* of the 19th November says that Babu Kali Prasanna Rai, Munsif of Jamalpur in the Mymensingh district, is more anxious to clear off his file than to do justice to the suitors. And he has hit upon a nice plan for dismissing or striking off cases. He has instructed his chaprassi to call out the names of the suitors and their witnesses in a very low voice, and if none respond to the call, he strikes off the case. He fixed the 4th November last for the hearing of 94 cases, and the writer will gradually publish the results of their hearings. Here are two cases disposed of by the Munsif:—

(1) One Saritulla Sekh and another, the defendants in suit No. <sup>959</sup>/<sub>8335</sub> of 1895, had borrowed some money from the plaintiff, Bakra Sekh, and promised to pay off the debt by delivering to him certain maunds of mustard seed. One of the defendants appeared and admitted the plaintiff's claim and their liability to pay off the debt. But the Munsif dismissed the case, as there was a slight discrepancy in the plaintiff's own statements regarding the exact quantity of mustard seed to be delivered to him.

(2) In suit No. 1768 of 1895, one Mehtar Sekh sued one Jalu Sekh for repayment of some debt contracted on a hand-note. The witness to the note not being present in court on the day of hearing, the plaintiff asked for a warrant against him. The Court refused not only this, but also the plaintiff's prayer, that two other gentlemen, who were present in court and knew of the transaction, might be examined. The case was dismissed.

HITAISHI,  
Nov. 19th, 1895.

24. The *Hitaishi* of the 19th November points out certain anomalies in the procedure adopted at present in the service of summons and other processes. In a civil suit where the defendant does not appear at the hearing, the court generally passes an *ex-parte* judgment against him if the serving peon reports that the summons was duly served, or if the other party testifies to its having been duly served by the peon. It often happens, however, that the summons is not properly or duly served, and sometimes the plaintiff and sometimes the defendant have to suffer on this account. The serving peon often wilfully neglects to serve the process or mis-serves it, and the plaintiff is often obliged to pay him illegal gratification, in order to make him mindful of his duty. The plaintiff is put to great trouble and expense in getting the process served, and especially so when the person to be served with the process lives under the jurisdiction of a different court. If the serving peon is paid illegal gratification, he is ready to do what the plaintiff wishes him to do. Sometimes when the plaintiff is bent upon harassing the defendant, he induces the serving peon not to duly serve the summons, and then to report that it was duly served. The defendant, who gets no notice, fails to appear in the Court. The case is decreed *ex-parte* against him, and he is put to the trouble and expense of moving the Court for the retrial of his case. All these anomalies can be removed by serving summons and other processes through the post-office.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 22nd, 1895.

25. A correspondent of the *Hitavadi* of the 22nd November, writes from Govindapore in Manbhum, that the new Sub-divisional Officer, Mr. Ainslie, has, on receiving charge of office, become, as is the custom in these parts, Deputy Magistrate, Deputy Collector and Munsif, all in one. On the



day he first assumed charge of his office, he beckoned to the pleaders and mukhtars to leave the Court-room, which wish was instantly complied with. On the 4th November last he took up a rent suit in his capacity of Deputy Collector. In the course of the hearing the plaintiff's pleader happened to drop his spectacles, which so disturbed Mr. Ainslie, that he ordered the pleader to go out. The pleader could not at first comprehend that the order was meant for him, but the direction of Mr. Ainslie's glances left no doubt in the matter. The pleader then informed Mr. Ainslie that he was pleader for the plaintiff, and to convince the officer of this, addressed him in English. But the order of "*bahar jao*" was thundered out again and again. The pleader then left the court, and informed his brother pleaders of the insult that had been offered to him. Since then no pleader has entered Mr. Ainslie's court. Taking advantage of this circumstance, Mr. Ainslie is disposing of case after case. He is not puzzled in the least by any legal difficulty. On the 8th November last he was about to dismiss a suit for the recovery of a debt on a registered *tamsuk*, on the ground of its having been instituted after three years from the date of the *tamsuk*, and was only prevailed upon by the earnest entreaty of the complainant to postpone the decision. Great inconvenience is being caused to the parties on account of the pleaders absenting themselves from Mr. Ainslie's court.

26. Bhagai Uriya, observes the *Banganivasi* of the 22nd November, with reference to the Howrah grievous hurt case, has escaped from this world, and found eternal rest in the next. His wife and children are shedding tears in distant Orissa. But Anderson lives and moves freely, and is enjoying himself as well as before. It is, however, shameful that a man is killed in broad day light under the very nose, so to speak of the Government House, and not a hair of the murderer is touched. Will this incident increase the glory of the British rule in India?

The writer understands that Mr. Grierson, the District Magistrate of Howrah, has resolved to ask the Government to appeal to the High Court against the decision of the Sessions Judge of Howrah, and with this object, he has asked the Howrah Government Pleader to give his opinion on the matter.

27. The *Sanjivani* of the 23rd November writes that in a case in which a man was charged with cutting another man's paddy, Mr. Carey, Sub-divisional Officer of Sirajganj, in the Pubna district, convicted the accused and sentenced him to be whipped. Has one ever heard of a man being whipped for cutting another man's paddy? Is not such a punishment contrary to law? After sentencing the accused in this case to be whipped, Mr. Carey next ordered a municipal *mehtar* to execute the sentence. The latter flatly declined to carry out the order, upon which Mr. Carey wrote a letter to the Chairman of the Municipality, asking him to dismiss the *mehtar*. The Chairman has naturally wanted to know the reason why he should dismiss a municipal servant who is mindful of his municipal duties. Mr. Carey is silent.

28. The Magistrate in his judgment, observes the same paper, plainly says that the witnesses for the defence did not wilfully give false evidence against the accused in the Fatwa rape case. There is also nothing to show that they were maliciously inclined against West. Why then was the accused not convicted? It is also to be observed that although the case was conducted on behalf of the Crown, no pleader was engaged to properly conduct it. It is to this fact that the miscarriage of justice is chiefly to be ascribed. The Government should not therefore hesitate to have the case retried.

While West has been acquitted, the station staff who gave evidence against him, have been dismissed by Mr. Murray, District Traffic Superintendent, Dinapur. Is there no means to get the decision of Mr. Murray reversed? Even if it be granted, for the sake of argument, that Brijmohan, Fakira and Lotan maliciously deposed against the accused, what proof is there to hold the station-master guilty? It was reported to him that West had committed rape on a native woman, and he, as in duty bound, sent the news to the higher railway authorities. There is nothing in the Magistrate's judgment to show that the station-master gave false evidence against the accused. The station-master

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has served the Railway Company faithfully for ten years, and if after this he is dismissed for doing a plain duty, no native station-master will in future dare interfere in a case where a European may offend against a person in a railway station.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,  
Nov. 23rd, 1895.

29. Referring to the case which has been instituted by the Musalmans of Midnapore against a party of Hindu *jatrawallas* for traducing certain Musalman saints in their songs, the *Mihir-o Sudhakar* of the 23rd November says that it is at the instigation of Babu Ramhari De, a Mukhtar of the local Criminal Court, that the *jatrawallas* refused to apologise in the terms suggested by the arbitrators to whom the case had been referred. The Magistrate and the Deputy Magistrate should be careful to do strict justice in the case. For they should know that the Musalman community is watching its result with the keenest interest and anxiety. Mr. Mackertich, who is to decide the case, ought to remember that Musalman feeling is very susceptible on religious matters. He might remember that a certain Paris Theatre had some years ago to give up the idea of putting a certain play relating to Muhammad on the stage, because the Muhammadans of the whole world objected to it, and that some years ago the Emerald Theatre in Calcutta was compelled to do the same in respect of a play entitled "Muhammad—the religious hero." He might also remember that on one occasion a serious disturbance took place in a Brahmo Theatre in Dacca, which enacted the part of Muhammadan saints on the stage. Indeed, to avert a serious calamity in Midnapore, the Magistrate cannot be too careful in deciding the case. He should also take note of the fact that it was owing to Ramhari De that the case could not be settled out of court. The Hindus are too forward in throwing the blame of cow-slaughter quarrels entirely on the Muhammadans. But what do they say about this quarrel in Midnapore? Was it not brought about entirely through the fault of the Hindus in putting to ridicule Musalman saints? It is also a significant fact that no Hindu mukhtar could at first be induced to take up the case of the Musalmans. Babu Prabodh Chandra Das has, however, since kindly consented to conduct the prosecution, and has thereby earned the thanks of the Muhammadan community.

An enquiry into this case will convince Government of the real feeling with which the Hindus regard the Musalmans. The Musalmans look up to the benign British Government for redress, and they will complain to the Almighty if they do not get it at the hands of their rulers.

(d)—Education.

SOM PRAKASH,  
Nov. 18th, 1895.

30. The *Som Prakash* of the 18th November cannot say why the University authorities have been so kind to Babu Hara-prasad Sastri, of all men. It is said that the members of the History Board have taken upon themselves the task of correcting Babu Haraprasad's History of India. The *Indian Mirror* has rightly pointed out that the members, whose duty it is to select books, should not be partial to any particular author. As for the book itself, it not only abounds in grammatical errors, but is disfigured by other very serious defects. The writer is, indeed, at a loss to understand why the History Board should be anxious to select such a book. If the present members of that Board have not the capacity to understand how faultless a book should be which is to be read by thousands of schoolboys, or if they find themselves weak enough to be influenced by private motives, they ought to resign.

HITAISHI,  
Nov. 19th, 1895.

31. The *Hitaishi* of the 19th November observes that schoolboys are growing more and more undisciplined and disobedient. They have no respect for their superiors, no regard for their guardians. They show no honour to age and entertain no feeling of awe and veneration for their teachers. The boys of towns are most open to corruption. In Calcutta "the society for the higher training of young men" was established for the improvement of the morals of our schoolboys. But the hall of this society has come to be a meeting place of grown-up boys and young men who indulge themselves in frivolous talk and other objectionable pastimes. The truth is that the morality of our schoolboys is getting more and more deteriorated, while their intellectual equipment, which



passes for education, consists of nothing more than a smattering knowledge of a variety of subjects crammed for the purpose of passing the University examinations. One most striking proof of the moral degradation of our boys is the prevalence of smoking "Bird's-eye" cigarettes among them. This objectionable practice is gradually gaining a strong hold on the rising generation. Boys of all ages are addicted to this habit. The smoking of "Bird's-eye" is but the stepping stone to the drinking of wine or the smoking of ganja and opium. The "Bird's-eye" cigarettes are very much prejudicial to health and morals. In France and other European countries it is a crime for a boy of less than sixteen years to smoke cigarettes. It has become urgently necessary to introduce the same law in India.

32. The *Sahachar* of the 20th November has heard that Dr. Martin has proposed to the Director of Public Instruction the complete withdrawal of the grant which the Konnagar School in the Hooghly district has been receiving from Government for the last 50 years. The income of the school from fees is very small, and it could not exist but for Municipal and Government grants; and there are now few rich men living in Konnagar who can take over its management upon themselves. Under the circumstances, the discontinuance of the grant will mean the abolition of the school—an institution which in point of merit equals any zilla school. It is hoped that Sir Alfred Croft, who has all along fought a hard fight with Government in the cause of high education, will not agree to the proposal.

The writer has also heard that Mr. Grierson, Magistrate of Howrah, is endeavouring to get some high class schools in his district abolished, and that to gain his object he has induced Dr. Martin to support his views.

33. The same paper is glad to learn that the Government of India has arranged for an Agricultural Conference to be held at Muzaffarpur in which the representatives both of the Government of India and the Government of Bengal in their Agricultural Departments will be present. The subject of discussion will probably be the establishment of an agricultural college in Metiaburuj near Calcutta. The writer will suggest the amalgamation of the Calcutta School of Art with the proposed college, and the establishment of one such mixed agricultural and art school in every district—or at least in every division—with a model farm attached to it. The execution of this project will require a considerable expenditure, because the fees collected from the pupils will not be adequate for the maintenance of the proposed institutions. But as pupils pass out of these schools, it may be expected that they will establish independent institutions of the kind, enabling Government gradually to withdraw from the field.

A forest school like that at Dehra Dun should be established also at Darjeeling.

34. The *Murshidabad Hitnishi* of the 20th November suggests some change in the method of awarding the Rajib Scholarships. These scholarships were founded by the late Dewan, Rajib Lochan Rai Bahadur of Murshidabad, and are awarded to the meritorious students of that district, who have passed the Entrance examination and secured Government scholarships. The writer suggests that they should be awarded to such successful candidates as have creditably passed the examination but have failed to secure Government scholarships.

35. The *Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide* of the 21st November thinks that it would be a disgrace to the Calcutta University to adopt Pandit Hara Prasad Sastri's History of India, which is full of grammatical errors, as the text-book in history for the Entrance examination.

36. Abinash Chandra De writes in the *Samay* of the 22nd November, complaining against the management of the Campbell Medical School and Hospital. The hospital building is roofed with corrugated iron. This makes the hospital rooms too hot in the summer. In the rainy season the rain-water streams down from the roof into the rooms. The wards are dirty, emitting a sickening stench. Native Doctors have now been appointed to the

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posts to which Assistant Surgeons used to be appointed before. These ignorant men are appointed House Surgeons, and are entrusted with the lives of hundreds of unfortunate patients. The diet which the patients receive is simply miserable, and the drugs and medicines are no better. Sometimes in making up prescriptions drugs are found wanting, but the want is not supplied, and the medicine is prepared without some of the drugs prescribed. As for the management of the hospital, Dr. Gibbons, the Superintendent, has never been known to have paid a single visit to its wards. He has a multiplicity of duties to perform, and he can spare only half an hour or so to do the office work. The school too is faring ill under his superintendence. He has appointed Native Doctors not only as House Surgeons, but also as Demonstrators. Chemistry, which is closely connected with the medical science, is not taught in the school.

There is another anomaly to be noticed. The teachers are allowed to examine the boys in those very subjects which they have to teach them. The boys are consequently forced to read the books written by their examiners in order to secure success in the examinations.

37. The *Hitavadi* of the 22nd November has the following :—

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 22nd, 1895.

The new rules in the Calcutta Medical College.

We are glad to learn that paragraph 12 of the Director's circular, relating to the readmission of plucked students in the Medical College, has not received the sanction of Government. But is it not a matter of regret that the rules—even in the form in which they have been sanctioned by Government—should be so severe? Even in their modified form the rules leave the determination of the number of students who are to be admitted in the 1st-year class in the hands of the Principal. It is, however, somewhat gratifying to observe that the Principal will not be able to exercise such arbitrary powers in regard to other students: the plucked students will be allowed to read for another year.

Some of the rules now sanctioned by Government are at variance with the rules of the University. The new rules of the College lay down that students of the 2nd-year class who are unable to pass the College examination will not be promoted to the next higher class, even though they may have succeeded in the University examination. The University, however, decided otherwise after discussing the point. A discussion of this question will be found at page 128, Part II of the University's Minutes and Proceedings for 1877-78. It will appear from the proposals made by Dr. Macleod and others that the intention of the University is that all but those students who fail to secure 15 per cent. of the aggregate marks should be promoted to the next higher class, the reason for this decision being that some of the subjects being purely scientific, many students are unable to pass examinations in them, and that those students should therefore be given another chance. The present rule, however, completely ignores the rule of the University.

Again, the new rules lay down that the fees for a session to be paid by plucked students shall be as follows: Rs. 40 for those who are plucked in one subject, Rs. 60 for those who are plucked in two, and Rs. 70 for those who are plucked in three. An inspection of the University's Minute on the subject will show that a grave injustice has been done by this rule. When the proposal for compelling plucked students to read for another year was made for the first time, it was objected to by the authorities of the University on the ground that this would entail additional expenditure upon the students. In reply to this objection, Dr. Macleod stated:—"He is in a position to state that this matter has been considered by the College Council, which has decided that the students should not, under the circumstances, be required to pay a fresh fee for additional courses." It will now be seen that this rule of taking additional fees has been introduced against the intention of the University and the promise made by Dr. Macleod.

If the Fellows of the Calcutta University have the power to interfere in the matter, they should not allow these unjust rules to be introduced. Is it not strange that though the rules and the promises of the University are being broken in this way, that body is not once being consulted?

Far from waiting for the opinion of the Fellows of the University, the present College authorities are acting in utter disregard of their decisions. At



page 86 of the University's Minutes for 1888-89, the following orders were passed upon Dr. Warden's letter :—"That the identification of the microscopic preparations shall form no part of any of the examinations of the foregoing subjects." And yet the students were required to identify such preparations in the examinations in botany and chemistry held last year. The University's rules are becoming quite a dead letter on account of the caprices of the examiners.

There are signs to show that there will be a decline in the study of the western system of medicine in this country. The medical examinations of the University are being made unnecessarily difficult. The Medical College is the only institution in which that system of medicine is taught and by which medical examinations are held. It is not therefore difficult for the authorities of that College to act arbitrarily. Since there is no other institution in which the students can study medicine, they must perforce obey any orders that the authorities may pass. That is why there is such severity.

In conclusion, we request the University authorities, the members of the Medical Board, as well as every Fellow of the Senate to attend to this matter. Will it be any way creditable to the University if the students of the Medical College have to acquire medical knowledge under such difficulties and have to pass medical examinations under such disadvantages? What power will be left to the University if Dr. Bomford or the Director or any other man can oppress students by introducing any rules they please? Is it not the duty of the University to lay down the rules to which the students are to be subject and to see that those rules are acted upon?

Let the University attend to the removal of these inconveniences of the students. It must be due to the meritorious deeds of the students in a former existence that the rules as proposed by Dr. Bomford have not been yet given effect to. There is now no hope of a remedy unless the University should look to the matter and be up and doing. The authorities have proceeded far enough this time? And who shall say that they will not proceed farther the next time. In one issue we have given a sufficient idea of Dr. Bomford's skill as a physician; in another we have shown how ill-disposed he is towards natives. Will the students be compelled to live in a state of constant dread and uneasiness by allowing Dr. Bomford to remain in arbitrary authority over them for ever?

38. The same paper will not cease to point out mistakes in the "Maniman-jari" so long as it is used as a text-book in the Calcutta Sanskrit College. The writer will be

*Manimanjari:*

satisfied if any genuine Sanskrit grammar, Mugdhabodh or other, is substituted for it. He will also continue to find fault with the College authorities so long as arrangements are not made for the study of Sanskrit philosophy, &c., similar to those that existed formerly.

39. The same paper complains that Dr. Charles, Professor of Anatomy in the Calcutta Medical College, is forcing the students to purchase Ellis's "Practical Demonstration." The students who have not purchased that book are not being admitted to lectures or to lessons in dissection. The Professor will not allow any two students to use the same copy of the book, though this is perfectly feasible. The book is not procurable in the market. The students are, however, getting over this difficulty by depositing the price of the book with the Professor, who, on receipt of the price, no longer objects to their admission to lectures. Is this not rather mysterious?

Dr. Charles's partiality for a particular text-book

40. Referring to the quarrel over Babu Haraprasad Sastri's History of India the *Bangavasi* of the 23rd November observes that it does not matter whether Sastri's book, or that of Dutt or that of Hunter is selected. They are all equally objectionable, inasmuch as all of them more or less abuse Hindu society.

Babu Hara Prasad Sastri's History of India in English.

41. The *Sanjivani* of the 23rd November, observes that the revised edition of Babu Hara Prasad Sastri's History of India in English bristles with mistakes, although it has been corrected by three English scholars like Messrs. Rowe, Percival and Prothero. Mr. Percival admits that there are

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mistakes still in Babu Haraprasad's book, but they will be corrected afterwards. Babu Haraprasad is a past master in the art of flattery, and it is through this qualification alone that he has got his book selected as a text-book for the Entrance candidates. It is no doubt strange that a book written by a man who cannot write correct English, whose mistakes are so numerous that they have not been exhaustively corrected, although they have twice undergone revision at the hands of English scholars, has been selected as a text-book for the candidates for a University examination. It is by reading a history written in the English language that a boy has the best chance of learning to write correct English. Babu Haraprasad's book will teach him to write bad English. But Babu Haraprasad's book bristles not only with grammatical mistakes, but also with mistakes of fact and opinion. In his opinion Warren Hastings did nothing wrong in carrying on the Rohilla War or in ruining the Begums of Oudh. And this is what the Indian boys have to get by heart.

Between Babu Haraprasad's book and the book of Mr. Dutt, there is a difference as great as that between heaven and hell. Mr. Dutt's book breathes throughout exalted patriotism, while the Sastri praises the tyrants and the oppressors of humanity. Mr. Dutt holds before the reader a picture of the ideal manners and customs of the ancient times, while the Sastri tells him that the Rishis enjoined on the recluse alone self-control and truthfulness. It is a pity that the History Board has been won over by the flattery of Babu Haraprasad and has selected his book as a text-book. The enlarged edition of Mr. Dutt's History of India has been selected as a text-book for the students of the Oxford University, but his smaller History of India is rejected by the History Board of the Calcutta University.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 24th, 1895.

42. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 24th November says that the History Board has selected Babu Hara Prasad Sastri's History of India in English as a text-book for the candidates for the Entrance examination, but Mr. R. C. Dutt has appealed to the Syndicate against the decision of the History Board on the ground that the majority of the members who voted for Babu Haraprasad's book, were prejudiced in his favour. The History Board would have done well if they had not selected Babu Haraprasad's book this year. Babu Haraprasad could wait. Obstinacy does not become a member of the Senate of the Calcutta University, nor should a member of that learned assembly canvass and dance attendance on his brother members, or sit *dharna* at their doors to get his book selected as a text-book. The Syndicate will not be able to turn a deaf ear to Mr. Dutt's representations.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

SOM PRAKASH,  
Nov. 18th, 1895.

43. The *Som Prakash* of the 18th November says that though the Santipur Municipality in the Nadia district has an area of about nine square miles and contains a population of about thirty-five thousand souls, there are no public latrines in the municipality, and the number of public urinals within it is only eight. The consequence of this state of things is that for some time past a large number of persons, both residents and new arrivals, have been daily arrested and fined for committing nuisance on the public roads. There should be at least fifty urinals and ten privies in the municipality for the use of the public.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 20th, 1895.

44. In the Bengal Government Resolution on the Administration of the Calcutta Municipality for the last year, Mr. Risley finds fault with the Commissioners as well as with the report submitted by them. It is to be presumed that in this Mr. Risley has the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor. Sir Charles Elliott is bent upon playing the pedagogue everywhere, and Mr. Risley is his worthy disciple. He even finds fault with the grammar and style of the municipal report. For the report of the Calcutta Municipality its President, Mr. Ritchie, is responsible. Is it to spite Mr. Ritchie, who had lately been to Simla to pay a visit to Sir Alexander Mackenzie, the new Lieutenant-Governor, that Mr. Risley has condemned the report of the Calcutta Municipality? Never before was the style of a municipal report found fault with. In speaking



of the work done by the Commissioners, Mr. Risley says that they waste most of their time in useless debate. Here Mr. Risley no doubt follows Mr. Skrine. But what proof has Mr. Risley to show that the Commissioners do no useful work? In his Resolution at least he has given no such proofs. The Municipal Commissioners have been condemned in the Resolution in all matters except those in which they have not hesitated to waste the rate-payer's money. The income of the Calcutta Municipality is ever on the increase. It is now estimated at 45 lakhs a year. Still the Lieutenant-Governor is not satisfied, and he advises the Commissioners to realize the arrears of collection by selling the moveable property of defaulting tax-payers. The Commissioners, however, are not bound to follow the Lieutenant-Governor's advice. The Lieutenant-Governor may get the law changed, and in one part of the Resolution he actually speaks of making a change in the existing law. The Calcutta Municipality during the last year made a grant of five thousand rupees to the local primary schools, but the Lieutenant-Governor is not satisfied with this, and he would have that body to increase the grant to ten thousand rupees a year. Even Dr. Simpson is not spared in the Resolution, and Mr. Risley takes him severely to ask for the incompleteness of his report on typhoid fever. It is to be seen if Dr. Simpson can treat the censure passed on him by the Lieutenant-Governor as lightly as he is in the habit of treating the adverse criticism of his work by the Municipal Commissioners. Even the *Hindoo Patriot* finds fault with Mr. Risley's Resolution, and nothing more need be said about it. The Government of Sir Charles Elliott has always been remarkable for its haughtiness, want of courtesy and whims. But even Mr. Risley will have to tame down his temper under Sir Alexander Mackenzie.

MURSHIDABAD  
HITAISHI,  
Nov. 20th, 1895.

45. The *Murshidabad Hitaishi* of the 20th November observes that the Murshidabad District Board is not judicious or sufficiently careful in its expenditure. Here are a few instances in point. In Natial, under the jurisdiction of Goas, in the Murshidabad district, the Board has sunk a well at a cost of about two or three hundred rupees. Within a few paces from this village, however, there is a small stream whose water is used by the neighbouring people. This well, therefore, serves no earthly purpose. In Daulatabad, Hariharpara, and other villages in the same district, the Board constructs bamboo bridges over the river, which are used during the months of Aswin and Kartik (September and October) and afterwards destroyed. During these two months, however, the river is easily fordable, and the bamboo bridges only serve to obstruct the current. About a thousand rupees is every year unnecessarily spent in constructing these bamboo bridges. If ferry boats had been allowed to ply during this time the people, as well as the Board, would have been far more benefited.

46. Referring to the recent Local Board elections in the Murshidabad district, the *Pratikar* of the 22nd November regrets that, owing to delay on the part of the candidates in sending up their names, there have been no elections in many places in that district. In Daulatabad thana, for instance, there has been no election this time, nor was any election held in that thana on the last occasion.

PRATIKAR,  
Nov. 22nd, 1895.

47. The *Darsak* of the 24th November observes that a tiger is committing depredations in Halisahar in the 24-Parganas district. The police seems to be quite indifferent in the matter. The municipality ought to clear the jungles in order to prevent tigers from taking shelter in them.

DARSAN,  
Nov. 24th, 1895.

48. A correspondent of the same paper contradicts certain statements regarding the Bansberia Municipality in the Hooghly district, published in the *Hitavadi* of the 1st November (see Report on Native Papers for the 9th November 1895, paragraph 39). The *Hitavadi's* statement that the present Chairman is a tool in the hands of the former Chairman, is utterly false. The present Chairman of the Municipality, Raja Surendradeva Rai is an able, kind-hearted man of independent spirit. He is not bound by obligation to the former Chairman. They rarely meet each other. The statement that the former Chairman had to resign because the fact of his having paid the revenue

DARSAN.



of his zamindari with municipal money became known to the rate-payers, is also baseless. The former Chairman never had any zamindari, and he resigned simply because the municipality could not afford to pay his travelling allowance (Rs. 25 a month), and proposed to the Government to allow it to appoint a Commissioner to the Chairmanship, who lived in the locality. It is not true that the former Chairman after resignation tried to get his son appointed Chairman. His son was never a Municipal Commissioner, and no attempt was ever made to get him appointed Chairman. The *Hitavadi* further remarks:—"two municipal *sarkars* embezzled some money, the present Chairman simply dismissed them, and filled their places by appointing two of his own men." This statement is as false as the others. The true facts are these: two *sarkars* embezzled municipal money. The present Chairman realized the money from them, dismissed them, and then handed them over to the Sub-Committee for departmental trial. He has appointed two men on trial in the place of the dismissed *sarkars*, with the consent of the Commissioners.

DACCA GAZETTE,  
Nov. 25th, 1895.

49. In view of the increase of municipal work, the *Dacca Gazette* of the 25th November recommends the appointment of a paid whole-time Vice-Chairman for the local Municipality. It is hoped that the Divisional Commissioner will carefully consider this suggestion.

A paid whole-time Vice-Chairman for the Dacca Municipality.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

DACCA PRAKASH,  
Nov. 17th, 1895.

50. The *Dacca Prakash* of the 17th November urges the necessity of constructing a railway or a tramway between Dacca and Goalundo *via* Manikganj. A railway will not only make the journey cheaper and of shorter duration than it is by the existing steamer service, but will save ladies and respectable people the ignomy of being rudely treated by the steamers' crew. Many people object to the construction of a railway on the ground that it will facilitate export from the eastern districts and make the necessities of life dear in those parts. But these people shut their eyes to the fact that all exportable commodities are even now exported by means of steamers. In reply to the objection that the construction of a rail road will obstruct the drainage of the country through which it will pass, it need only be mentioned that the railway, if constructed, will be taken along a road which has existed in the Manikganj subdivision for the last quarter of a century, and that though there was an outbreak of malaria in the tract through which the road passes in the Bengali year 1269, that is nine years before the construction of the road, the health of the people has improved instead of declining since its construction.

The construction of a railway or tramway is also the only means of improving the condition of the poor Manickganj people, who now for the greater portion of the year, when rivers and canals dry up and import is stopped, have actually to starve. The District Board is sure to gain three to four lakhs of rupees every year from the suggested railway or tramway.

CHARU MIHIR,  
Nov. 19th, 1895.

51. The *Charu Mihir* of the 19th November says that while the authorities of the Dacca-Mymensingh railway are heard to complain that the line returns no profit, large quantities of jute are lying in Mymensingh, Balipara and Kaoride stations for want of a sufficient number of goods wagons to carry it. Many people are also sending their jute by boat to the loss of the railway. It is hoped the District Traffic Superintendent will make arrangements for keeping a large supply of goods wagons on the line, and thereby prevent the railway's loss as well as remove the serious inconvenience to which traders and merchants are now put.

52. Sasi Bhusan Mukhopadhyaya of Barabazar writes in the *Samay* of the 22nd November complaining of the conduct of the staff of the steamer *Ilabila* belonging to Messrs. Hoare, Miller and Company, which started for Murshidabad from Calcutta. The steamer was overcrowded, and there being no room in the lower deck, the third class passengers were allowed by the staff of the Company's Calcutta office to take their seats in the upper deck.

SAMAY,  
Nov. 22nd, 1895.

Steamer passengers oppressed by the employes of Messrs. Hoare, Miller and Company.



As soon as the steamer left Calcutta, the native conductor of the steamer ordered the third class passengers to leave the upper deck and take their seats in the lower, which had been more than overcrowded already. Those who could satisfy the conductor by paying him something were allowed to stay in the upper deck. But those who could not do so were forced to take their shelter in the lower. The lower deck was filled to suffocation, and the suffering of the passengers was simply indescribable. The Musalman *khalasis* also ill-treated the passengers in the most shameful way, and they did not even hesitate to insult the female passengers.

53. A correspondent of the *Hitavadi* of the 22nd November writes as follows:—

A railway grievance.

On the 27th October last I found about 200 persons, most of them pilgrims who wanted to bathe in the Ganges on the occasion of the *Ras Purnima*, waiting at the Kushtia station to catch the evening down train. The train, which came in at about 5 p.m., had about 30 goods waggons, 2 third class carriages, 1 intermediate class carriage, and 1 brakevan. Of the 200 persons waiting at the station, only 70 or 80 could get into the train with great difficulty, and the rest had to wait for the night train. At the Kushtia court station nearly a hundred more passengers got into the train, some of them being taken into the brakevan on account of their earnest entreaties. So nearly 400 passengers were now crammed into three carriages, and their sufferings can therefore well be imagined. Had the weather been hot, some of the passengers would have certainly died. When the train reached the Jagati station, the station authorities, seeing the sufferings of the passengers, attached a cattlevan to the train, and removed some of the passengers to it to the great relief of the rest. The correspondent requests the Lieutenant-Governor and the railway authorities to provide for a supply of a sufficient number of carriages on the occasion of religious festivals.

(h)—General.

54. The *Bankura Darpan* of the 16th November notices with regret the transfer of Dr. U. C. Mukharji from Bankura.

Dr. U. C. Mukharji, Civil Surgeon of Bankura.

The Doctor is a noble-minded man, and has been very popular in Bankura. Though an England-

returned native, he has great sympathy with the native community.

55. The same paper says that work in the coal mines being attended with danger to life, and wages being poor, coolies prefer taking service in tea gardens rather than in coal

The Labour Commission.

mines. This has led to an increase in the price of coal. Government has therefore appointed a Commission to enquire into the condition of the labourers in coal mines. The writer will be glad to see the condition of these labourers improved.

56. The *Som Prakash* of the 18th November exhorts the Government of India to hold an exhibition of agricultural and industrial products of the country in every province at intervals of four or five years. Such exhibitions

The necessity of economic exhibitions in India.

are calculated to excite competition and lead to an improvement of its agriculture and other industries. This is the only way to improve the material condition of the Indian people.

57. A correspondent of the *Charu Mihir* of the 19th November complains that owing to the delay in the transmission of the mails from Subarnakhali, letters, &c., from Pabna

A postal complaint.

and Mymensingh reach Nagarbari, in the Mymensingh district, late by one day. The delivery arrangement in Nagarbari is not also satisfactory, and should be improved by employing a village postman in addition to the one already entertained.

58. Another correspondent of the same paper points out the necessity of a post office at Kalirbazar, in the Mymensingh district, where there is a railway station and a large

Wanted a post office.

business in jute is transacted. There are also three zamindari cutcherries in the place.

59. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, says the *Sahachar* of the 20th November, has very aptly compared the Indian Viceroy and the members of his Council to the French barber

The Indian Viceroyalty.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 22nd, 1895.

BANKURA DARPAN,  
Nov. 16th, 1895.

BANKURA DARPAN.

SOM PRAKASH,  
Nov. 18th, 1895.

CHARU MIHIR,  
Nov. 19th, 1895.

CHARU MIHIR.

SAHACHAR,  
Nov. 20th, 1895.



and the lady prisoner respectively who were married in prison, and in virtue of whose marriage thus contracted the lady got her discharge, leaving her new husband to serve out for her the remaining period of her term of imprisonment. The members of the Viceroy's Council have in a similar manner made the Viceroy their scape-goat, upon whom they throw the blame and the responsibility of all their actions. Such, indeed, has become the influence exercised by these members over a Viceroy that even the most strong-minded Governor-General becomes a puppet in their hands within a short time after his arrival in India. Consequently few good and able men can nowadays be induced to accept the Indian Viceroyalty. Whenever the Viceroy proposes any legislation which is calculated to benefit the country, the members of his Council oppose him. It was in consequence of such opposition that Lord Ripon resigned his office before his time. Again, the Viceroy has, in obedience to the orders of the Secretary of State, to pass laws which should not be passed, and to veto or repeal laws which ought to be passed or ought not to be repealed. The Consent Act was carried through the Council through the sheer *zid* of Sir Andrew Scoble, the Viceroy, who was ignorant of the manners and customs of the country, merely saying "ditto" to the opinions of his advisers. The other day the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal passed the Sanitary Drainage Bill in opposition to the protests of the whole province. The British Indian Association submitted a memorial to the Governor-General, praying His Excellency to veto the measure, but to no purpose. The Governor-General saw nothing objectionable in the Bill. But the most curious thing about the passing of this Bill was that before the Viceroy's assent to it had been announced, the Lieutenant-Governor bragged that he knew that the Bill would receive His Excellency's sanction, thereby giving rise to the suspicion that the Viceroy had before considering the merits of the Bill or the protests against it assured the Lieutenant-Governor of his support. Such a private understanding between a Lieutenant-Governor and the Viceroy of India is certainly not to the latter's credit. Instances of influence exercised by the Council over Viceroys of these days may be multiplied. The Manipur imbroglio, the conquest of Burma, the treatment of the Maharaja of Cashmere, the Bhurtpore affair, and the late petty wars in which India's money was spent like water, are all instances of folly into which one or another Viceroy allowed himself to be led by his councillors.

It was in view of the subservient position to which Indian Viceroys would come to be reduced, that John Bright long ago proposed the abolition of that office. As a matter of fact, the Viceroy has become a mere ornamental figure-head in the Indian Administration, and his post may be abolished to the relief of the Indian exchequer.

VIKRAMPUR,  
Nov. 21st, 1895.

60. Government's Musalman favouritism, says the *Vikrampur* of the 21st November, is the result of the policy, inaugurated by Lord Dufferin, of creating a breach between Hindus and Musalmans, which, according to certain

The employment of Musalmans  
in Government service.

officials, is the only means of consolidating and strengthening the foundations of the British empire in this country. This favouritism, again, has been carried a little too far in Bengal under Sir Charles Elliott, who has directed the Divisional Commissioners to submit to Government every year a statement of the number of Musalmans employed in Government service in each division during the year, as if the employment of Musalmans in Government service were a necessary part of the Administration. No one will object to qualified Musalmans being appointed to Government service, but is it not an act of injustice on the part of Government to overlook the claims of properly qualified candidates in order that special favour might be shown to candidates belonging to a particular community? This favouritism will not, however, result in real benefit to the Muhammadan community. Hindu boys try to improve themselves by education from their very childhood, because they know that without education they will not be able to hold their own in the world's competition. The Musalman boys did not avail themselves of the opportunities of education even when Government showed them no particular favour. And will they be more anxious to improve themselves now when they see that they can secure good posts under Government without education? But the Musalmans will find themselves deluded if they neglect opportunities of educating themselves in the belief that even without education their sons will always be provided for



by Government. At one time the Hindus also enjoyed Government's favour, but how are they treated now?

61. The *Banganivasi* of the 22nd November understands that owing to a recrudescence of murder in Barisal, the authorities contemplate increasing the rigour of the Arms Act in that district. Is the recrudescence of murder in Barisal due to the use of swords and guns, and will that crime be suppressed if the Barisal people are disarmed? Do the authorities propose to prohibit the use of even *lathis* and spades and scythes in order to make the commission of murder an impossibility? The Arms Act has made the people quite helpless. They cannot protect themselves even from the attacks of wild animals. The administration of the Act is rigorous enough, and it is not possible to make it more rigorous. Have the authorities ever tried to find out the causes of the recrudescence of murder in Barisal?

BANGANIVASI,  
Nov. 22nd, 1895.

62. Referring to the concluding remarks of the Lieutenant-Governor in his Financial Resolution published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 13th November the same paper observes that in this Resolution the Lieutenant-Governor has given a resume so to speak of what he has done during the five years of his rule. This may give the Musalmans at least a show of reason and something like a plea for entertaining the retiring Lieutenant-Governor at a farewell dinner and flattering him with a laudatory farewell address. Sir Charles Elliott has done a good deal for the Musalmans, for which they ought to remain grateful to him for ever. But the public at large has no reason to look upon the work done by the Lieutenant-Governor as sufficient. Sir Charles Elliott's account of what he has done during his Lieutenant-Governorship is moreover not complete. He has studiously refrained from adverting to many things he has done prejudicial to the interests of the people. Surely a Lieutenant-Governor ought to have done many things more than what has been enumerated by His Honour himself in his Resolution.

BANGANIVASI.

63. The *Hitavadi* of the 22nd November writes as follows:—

The sons of the late Nawab Amir Ali. Now that the Lieutenant-Governor's time is nearly over, and dependents, title-hunters, toad-eaters, and lickspittles of different classes are making preparations for doing him honour, we have no wish to speak much about him. We shall consider ourselves fortunate if we can escape unhurt from his indignant glances. Still considerations of duty compel us to say unpleasant things even at this time. We will to-day place before our readers the evidence of partiality which His Honour has given by helping the sons of the late Nawab Amir Ali to seek the protection of the Insolvency Court, and by thus throwing their creditors into utter despair.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 22nd, 1895.

The late Nawab Amir Ali Khan Bahadur died sixteen years ago in November 1879. In the following year his estate was made over to the Receiver and his debts were paid off. Everybody knows this, and the Nawab's creditors, too, will admit as much.

It now appears that the Nawab's sons are involved in debt and, that with a view to extricate themselves from it, they have sought the protection of the Insolvency Court. In October last their petition for a declaration of insolvency was filed in the Court of the District Judge of Patna.

We will briefly sketch here how the affairs of the Nawab's sons were dealt with by Government before the petition was filed.

On the 20th August 1894, the Bengal Government wrote a letter No. 4246, to the Government of India, asking that Government to grant the Nawab's sons a loan of one lakh and ten thousand rupees to relieve them of debts contracted outside the circle of friends and relatives. On the 17th October following the reply was received that "as there is not sufficient security, a loan of that kind cannot be given. It would therefore be expedient to place the Nawab's estate under the Court of Wards and to procure loans from private parties."

The recommendation for a loan on behalf of the Nawab's sons was again submitted to the Viceroy in May last for reconsideration, on the ground that loans could not be procured from private parties at a small interest. But this time too the prayer was not granted by His Excellency.



" *Vide* letter from the Government of India, in the Revenue and Agricultural Department, No. 2088—204L., stating that the Governor-General in Council is unable to approve of the Lieutenant-Governor's proposal or to modify the orders previously communicated."

The Viceroy refused compliance with the Lieutenant-Governor's unreasonable request for the advance of an illegal loan. The Lieutenant-Governor had therefore to tell the Nawab's sons to resort to the Insolvency Court.

The Nawab left three sons. The eldest, Maulvi Syud Asrafuddin Ahmed, is the *mutwali* of the Hooghly Imambara. He was appointed to that post twenty years ago by Sir Richard Temple. The second, Mr. Ahsanuddin Ahmed is a Barrister-at-law and a Statutory Civilian. He was appointed in 1877 as a probationary officer by Sir Ashley Eden, and is now officiating as Sessions Judge of Nadia. The youngest, Syud Afzaluddin Ahmed is the Sub-Registrar of Patna. So all three hold good offices under Government and are well off. But they are now about to defraud their creditors by seeking the protection of the Insolvency Court, and the most kind-hearted Lieutenant-Governor is aiding them in that attempt.

The Lieutenant-Governor has now commenced pleading the cause of the Nawab's sons. He says that the debts "were incurred by their father and are not in any way due to their own extravagance or management." It can be easily proved that the Lieutenant-Governor's kindness has prevented him from ascertaining the real truth in this connection. We have said above that after the Nawab's death claims were filed in the High Court by his creditors and all his debts were paid off by the Receiver. If the Nawab had any remaining debts, how is it that the Receiver kept his eyes shut to the fact this long while? The Nawab died in 1879 and his sons have incurred debts on promissory notes up to 1890 or 1892. Is it then possible that these are their father's debts?

Indeed, many believe that these debts have been incurred by the sons and were not incurred by the father. We for ourselves are of this opinion. The object of the sons in attributing these debts to the father is to retain their posts under Government even after a declaration of insolvency. The Lieutenant-Governor, too, is supporting them with a view to enable them to remain in the Government service. We have no wish to incur the Lieutenant-Governor's displeasure by printing a number of letters on the subject. We print only one letter, by which the whole case will be made clear. This letter is as follows:—

No. 475A.—D., dated Darjeeling, the 9th September 1895.

From—H. J. S. Corron, Esq., C.S.I., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal,  
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

I AM directed to submit, for the information of the Government of India, a copy of the Resolution recorded by the Lieutenant-Governor under date the 9th September 1895 on the subject of the indebtedness of the sons of the late Nawab Amir Ali, C.I.E., and to express a hope that His Excellency the Governor-General in Council may be pleased to confirm the orders therein passed with special reference to the case of Mr. Ahsanuddin Ahmed, who is a Statutory Civilian, and whose case may be considered to be governed by the order of the Hon'ble Court of the Directors, No. 18 of 1854. In the case of the other two brothers it is apparently within the competence of the Local Government to pass orders without reference.

It will be clear from this that had the Lieutenant-Governor the power, he would have retained all three in their posts. It is within his competence to retain the first and the third son in Government service, and he is therefore advocating the cause of the second. Will not the public call this extreme kindness of His Honour's partiality? What will be the good of retaining the rule against officials contracting debts if a Statutory Civilian employed in judicial work can, with a view to meet demands against himself or his father, raise loans on promissory notes, and can do this in contravention of a rule of Government of which he is fully aware?

If the Lieutenant-Governor had possessed the least strength of mind, these pecuniarily embarrassed sons of a Nawab would not have ventured to seek the protection of an insolvency court. They would have anyhow satisfied their creditors. Whatever the Lieutenant-Governor may say, the public hold the



sons of the Nawab responsible for these debts. In the concluding part of his resolution No. 469A.D., dated the 9th September, His Honour says:—

"The Lieutenant-Governor is anxious that no further humiliation than this should be imposed upon them and is now pleased to direct that, subject to the confirmation of his orders by the Government of India, their resort to the Insolvency Court shall not involve suspension from their appointments."

The Lieutenant-Governor confesses that he is anxious that they should not lose their appointments. Is not this anxiety due to partiality?

Is it just that these sons of a Nawab, who have contracted debts owing to their luxurious habits, should remain in the Government service, while poor clerks who contract debts for the sake of their daily bread, and then resort to the insolvency court, are dismissed from it? Relieved of their liabilities by the insolvency court, these Nawab's sons will continue to hold high posts and sit at their ease with folded hands, while the poor fellows who were foolish enough to advance them loans will lose their money. So long these creditors hoped that the debtors would not risk their appointments by resorting to the insolvency court, and it was in this hope that many advanced them money. These creditors are now sadly disappointed. They now see that no reliance can be placed in Government's words, and that the rule that indebtedness or insolvency shall lead to an officer's removal from Government service, is not applicable to all. Such is the Lieutenant-Governor's mischievous favour! Such is his freedom from partiality! We had much to say on this subject, but we are unable to say everything at one time. It is the Lieutenant-Governor and his proteges who are now everywhere triumphant.

64. The same paper says that the agitation by the Lancashire mill-owners against the cotton duties has made the Home authorities uneasy. A reduction of the cotton

The cotton duties.

duties will not add appreciably to the hardships of the Indian people, for it is they who have really to pay the duties. But those duties may be entirely abolished if the unjust exchange compensation allowance now paid to European officers is done away with. Why do not the mill-owners pave the way for the repeal of the duties by agitating against that allowance?

65. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 23rd November calls Sir Charles Elliott the Drainage *Lat* (i.e. Drainage Governor). The writer says that the Lieutenant-

The Drainage *Lat*.

Governor wanted to know how the drainage cess on account of the Dankuni Canal was levied, and was informed that this tax pressed hard upon the people. But Sir Charles did not mind it. He is a *zubberdust* physician, and operated upon a weak patient even at the risk of his life. But one month more and Sir Charles will cease to be a Lieutenant-Governor. Nobody will then take notice of him.

66. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 23rd November writes as follows:—

Sir Charles Elliott's administration.

Sir Charles Elliott is going away, but the poison he has sown in the soil of Bengal will bear bitter fruit for the Bengalis. Sir Charles thought himself to be an uncommonly wise and able man, and would not therefore be dislodged from any position he chose to take up, however untenable that position might be. By too much indulgence he has made the civilians insolent and high-handed. It is true Sir Alexander Mackenzie is not a man of Sir Charles's stamp, and possesses greater patience and calmness; but it is not probable that he will be able to undo Sir Charles's policy all of a sudden, nay, for the sake of continuity in the administration, he will be bound to adopt in a large measure his predecessor's policy. By encouraging high-handedness in the civilians, Sir Charles Elliott has spoiled them, and they will oppose to the utmost Sir Alexander Mackenzie's interference with their powers. Such opposition by the united civilian body will certainly frighten Sir Alexander.

Sir Charles slighted the High Court at every step. And his promotion of every officer whom the High Court censured has made even all subordinate officers down to the very police constable lose their respect for that tribunal. But Sir Charles was never censured by the higher authorities for such conduct. It will therefore be idle to expect that his successor will reverse his policy in this respect.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 22nd, 1895.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 23rd, 1895.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Nov. 23rd, 1895.



Sir Charles Elliott's action in regard to the Drainage Act will produce particularly mischievous results. His drainage circular, addressed to the Commissioner of the Rajshahi Division before the Act itself had been assented to by the Viceroy, has made the people despair of redress at the hands of the Supreme Government when the Local Government does anything wrong. Nay, the precedent created by Sir Charles Elliott will enable his successors to arrogate to themselves undue powers and to look upon the Viceroy as a useless puppet.

Sir Charles Elliott did not mind the discontent of his subjects. He was satisfied so long as his own power and authority were undisputed. He thought that censure of executive officers by the head of the administration would make the people slight them. But he seemed never to have considered what the result would be if executive high-handedness should prove too much for the people to bear. Would not the people take the remedy in their own hands? Collisions with the police are already heard of, and what are they but the results of oppression which the people find it impossible to bear silently? But why should Sir Charles take note of all this? He is merely a bird of passage, who came to this country for a short time only to fatten himself at its expense.

The fact is that under him the administration of the province has been vitiated to its very core, and nothing but disorder bordering on anarchy prevails in the country. Babu Parvati Charan Rai's article in *India* contains a clear exposition of the conflict which exists between judicial and executive officers at the present time.

BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 23rd, 1895.

67. Referring to the application made by the sons of the late Nawab Amir Ali to file a schedule in the insolvency court, as well as to the recommendation of the Bengal Government that in this case the petitioners after they have been declared insolvents should not lose their appointments, the *Bangavasi* of the 23rd November observes that the India Government should accept the recommendation of the Bengal Government, and thus save the honour and prestige of an aristocratic Musalman family.

BANGAVASI.

The indebtedness of the late Nawab Amir Ali.

68. In noticing the Bengal Government Resolution on the operation of the Agriculturists Loans Act in Bengal during the last year, the same paper says that the object of the Act is far from being fulfilled. Loans are granted to the Indian agriculturists under this Act under certain conditions which are so strict that the poor peasants cannot observe them. The Government grants loans at a comparatively low rate of interest, but these strict conditions scare the agriculturists away, and they are forced to resort to the money-lender. The process too adopted by the Government in granting loans is very circuitous. The agriculturist has in the first place to make an application. He has next to find out security, and then the Deputy Collector, if he has time at his disposal, makes an enquiry. From the Resolution under notice, it appears that during the last year very few applications were entertained, and in the case of still fewer could an enquiry be made by the Deputy Collector, who had generally very little time at his disposal. The object of the measure is not likely to be fulfilled if these inconveniences are not removed.

SANJIVANI,  
Nov. 23rd, 1895

69. The *Sanjivani* of the 23rd November says that Mr. Westmacott in his Annual Administration Report called Babu Nafar Chandra Pal Chaudhuri of Natudaha, in the Nadia district, "the notorious Nafar Chandra Pal Chaudhuri of Nadia." Babu Nafar Chandra is not a coward, nor is he in the habit of flattering the officials. Most probably he protested against the unjust charge brought against him by the Commissioner of the Presidency Division, and the latter has in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 20th November published an emendation of his remarks on Babu Nafar Chandra Pal Chaudhuri. Mr. Westmacott, the Bengali-hater, has got his deserts after all.

SANJIVANI.

70. The same paper observes that the European residents of Serampore having applied to the Government for a European Magistrate, Mr. Fischer has been appointed Sub-divisional Officer there, and it has been decided that henceforth no native will be appointed Subdivisional Officer of Serampore. This



must strike one as strange. If Europeans should get a European Magistrate, and a European Magistrate alone, why should not Hindus, get a Hindu and Musalmans a Musalman Magistrate? Is the Government, which prides itself on its impartiality, prepared to go so far? Will not such an arrangement prejudicially affect the efficiency of the Administration? A policy of partiality like that which has been followed in the present instance is sure to reflect great discredit on the British rule in India.

71. The same paper does not expect that any good will be done by the appointment of the Labour Commission. This Commission is likely to do the Indian coolies more harm than good. The people of this country have never been benefited by a Commission, and the Labour Commission is not likely to prove an exception to the general rule. The Chamber of Commerce applied for the appointment of the Commission with the object that it would facilitate the supply of labour by binding the Indian cooly with the hard-and-fast provisions of a labour contract. The people of Chota Nagpur and the Sonthal Parganas have already tasted to their cost the evils of cooly life in the Assam tea gardens, and they are no longer willing to serve the tea planters. So it is the latter's object to get the Government to pass a law facilitating the supply of labour from all parts of the country to the tea plantations. Sir Charles Elliott, a great patron of his countrymen, has readily acceded to their prayer, and has appointed a Labour Commission in which there is none to represent the Indian cooly or say a word on his behalf. The Lieutenant-Governor has appointed the representatives of the tea planters and the owners of coal mines to the Commission, and has paid no heed to the writer's suggestion that men like Mr. Ananda Mohan Bose, Babu Surendranath Bannerji, and Sir Romesh Chunder Mitter should be taken on the Commission.

SANJIVANI,  
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72. The same paper brings to the notice of the Government certain jobberies alleged to have been committed by Mr. Sandell, Comptroller, Postal Accounts, India. Mr. Kelly, a Postal Superintendent, is one of Mr. Sandell's great favourites. When Mr. Sandell took charge of his office Mr. Kelly was a Superintendent on a pay of Rs. 200 a month. It is said that it was simply to provide him with a more comfortable berth that Mr. Sandell asked the Government to create a new post with a monthly salary of Rs. 300 attached to it. His prayer was not, however, granted, and Mr. Kelly was pitchforked into a post with a monthly pay of Rs. 250 when Babu Dinabandhu Bhattacharyya was forced to retire. Mr. Kelly was thus allowed to supersede many of his seniors. For he is very active in flattering the Comptroller and keeping him in good humour. It was to please Mr. Sandell that he in his report once called the staff of a postal section the Pandemonium. All this seems to have raised Mr. Kelly in the estimation of Mr. Sandell. The post of Officiating Assistant Comptroller has now become his monopoly. Whenever a higher officer takes leave, Mr. Kelly is appointed to officiate for him. Mr. Eagles, for instance, is now on leave, and Mr. Kelly has been appointed to officiate for him. Favouritism seems to have turned Mr. Kelly's head. A few days ago he is said to have asked a Superintendent to bring a clerk to his presence, pulling him by the ear. A few weeks ago it was rumoured in the Comptroller's office that Mr. Kelly had threatened to break the neck of a clerk by striking his head against the wall. It is said that Mr. Sandell is bent upon appointing Mr. Kelly to the post of 2nd Assistant Comptroller when Sarada Babu retires in April next. It is to be expected, however, that the Government will not allow such a jobbery to be committed.

SANJIVANI.

73. The same paper observes that Sir Charles Elliott's rule will be always remembered for the rigorous administration of justice. In an article published in a recent issue of *India*, Babu Parvati Charan Rai, a retired Deputy Magistrate, very clearly shows that the policy of convicting the accused without paying sufficient attention to the nature of the evidence adduced first came into force during the rule of Sir Charles Elliott. It was under his rule that the Deputy Magistrates were compelled to compromise their conscience in the trial of cases and do the biddings of the Magistrates.

SANJIVANI.



CHINSURA  
VARTABAH,  
Nov. 24th, 1895.

74. The *Chinsura Vartabaha* of the 24th November has the following on the administration of Sir Charles Elliott:—

Sir Charles Elliott. When Sir Charles Elliott assumed the reins of Government, the people expected a good deal from him. They hoped that he would prove a beneficent ruler and try to keep them well contented. Days passed on, and the expectation of the people began to vanish into thin air. Sir Charles Elliott being placed over the destiny of millions of people, and armed with almost absolute power, began to misuse it with a vengeance. During his rule oppressive officials began to carry things with a high hand, and the Lieutenant-Governor gave them indulgence. The erring officials who were censured by the High Court were not punished but promoted. For Sir Charles Elliott always laboured under the impression that punishment inflicted on English officials was calculated to lower the prestige of the Government in the estimation of the people.

Sir Charles was extremely irritated to find that Bengal was not Assam, and that, unlike the Assamese, the Bengalis were not satisfied with his autocratic rule. He could not bear that his administration should be criticised and even found fault with by the public. It was just at this time that Sir Charles Elliott is said to have remarked to a correspondent of the *Black and White*: "Till I came to Bengal I never occupied a position where I was not regarded as the *ma-bap*, the mother and father of the people. But here in Bengal dwells the educated Babu, who, with brilliant exceptions, is as a rule discontented and disloyal." The loyalty of the Indian people is proverbial, but Sir Charles Elliott did not hesitate to call the entire people of Bengal disloyal. The friction between the Lieutenant-Governor and the Indian people began here, and grew as time went on.

One most striking characteristic of Sir Charles Elliott's rule was his policy of securing the conviction of the accused. "No conviction, no promotion" was the Lieutenant-Governor's motto, and the judicial officers were directly and indirectly encouraged to convict the accused right and left.

To tell the truth, the retiring Lieutenant-Governor was no friend of the Hindu. This at least is the conviction of the Hindu public. He was a great patron of the Christian missionaries. He treated the Hindus as a very low people, and thought that their salvation lay in their conversion to Christianity. He looked upon the religion of the Musalmans as far better than that of the Hindus. For do not the latter worship hideous idols made of clay and straw? Sir Charles Elliott believed that it ought to be sufficient recompense to the Hindus for all their grievances and sufferings to be converted to Christianity.

DARSAR,  
Nov. 24th, 1895.

75. The *Darsak* of the 24th November thus criticises the Financial Resolution of the Lieutenant-Governor, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 13th November:—

The Lieutenant-Governor's  
Financial Resolution.

Self-praise is distasteful to a Hindu. It is not so to a European. In a financial resolution published in the *Calcutta Gazette*, the Lieutenant-Governor indulges himself in self-praise. He tries his best to show that the welfare of the Indian people was best promoted during his rule. We, the Indian people, however, do not find any signs of our material prosperity. The burden of taxation is pressing more and more heavily on our shoulder. The scarcity of food and water is increasing, and is more and more keenly felt. Epidemics are decimating the people. Where is then, material prosperity? In England and other European countries taxes are repealed, and the burden of taxation lightened whenever the finances of the Government are in a prosperous condition. But whenever the Indian people call for a reduction of taxation, the Government invariably complains of its eternal want of pence. If this is the case, why this self-praise, this talk of material prosperity, this boast of a surplus revenue? What is this boasted surplus revenue to the people when it has not benefited them in the least? Not a farthing of it will be spent in improving the drainage system of the country; not a farthing of it was ever spent in feeding the famine-stricken people. The Lieutenant-Governor now boasts of a surplus revenue, but during the famine, when the hungry people clamoured for food, he advised them to satisfy their hunger with the delicious *kessur*. Such things are possible only in the *kali* age.



The Lieutenant-Governor next boasts of the public works constructed during his rule. But may we ask, what has the Lieutenant-Governor done to remove the chronic water-famine? Did he cause the excavation of a single well or tank to relieve the distress of the people suffering from scarcity of water? The people cried for bread, and the Lieutenant-Governor gave them a stone; they cried for water and he gave them a Drainage Act. What, then, has Sir Charles Elliott done to claim the praise of the public? It is because he is not confident that he will receive any praise from the people that he has taken to the somewhat inglorious task of praising himself.

76. The *Dainik Bharat Mitra* of the 24th November has the following:—

Sir Charles Elliott.

Sir Charles Elliott's acts, during his tenure of office in Bengal are surely enough to make his name immortal. It is His Honour who has made the police all powerful. His confidential circular for showing favour to the Musalmans to the prejudice of the Hindus will never be forgotten by the latter. His Honour's jury notification, and his settlement operations will always be remembered by the natives of Bengal. It is Sir Charles who has deprived the ministerial officers of Bengal of the benefit of the grade system. The credit of having supported rain gambling at Barabazar also belongs to His Honour.

May God grant Sir Charles a long life; and may He grant Sir Alexander Mackenzie wisdom and ability to cheer the down-trodden people of Bengal.

77. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 25th November urges Babu Nafar Chandra Pal Chaudhuri to bring a charge for defamation against Mr. Westmacott for calling him "notorious" in his Annual Administration Report, and remarks as follows:—

Mr. Westmacott on Babu Nafar Chandra Pal Chaudhuri.

We advise Nafar Babu to prosecute Mr. Westmacott at any cost. What does Mr. Westmacott think he has become? The Commissioner of a Division is a mere servant. The territory is not certainly Mr. Westmacott's. It is Her Majesty's, and there are in it thousands of officers like Mr. Westmacott. Nafar Babu should rather go to law than have his name thus discredited before Government. It is true Mr. Westmacott has since withdrawn the epithet, but what of that, when no apology accompanies the withdrawal? Here is also an opportunity of settling the question whether a Commissioner can be prosecuted. It is true, "a king can do no wrong." But a Commissioner is not certainly a king. A Commissioner, to our belief, can, and does, commit wrongs, and can therefore be made amenable to criminal law.

78. The same paper says that of all Mr. Sandell's achievements in the capacity of Comptroller, Post Office, the most conspicuous has been his love and admiration of Eurasian subordinates. During the five years of

Jobbery in the Postal Comptroller's Department.

his tenure of office, he has not only promoted a large number of Eurasian clerks in supersession of the claims of native clerks of superior ability and intelligence, but has admitted a large number of new Eurasian hands. For some time Mr. Sandell has been searching every nook and corner to put one Mr. Kelly, a clerk on Rs. 200 a month, into a better berth. He proposed the creation of a post on Rs. 300 a month for that gentleman; but Government did not grant his prayer. Happily, for Mr. Sandell, Babu Dinabandhu Bhattacharyya retired at this time, and Mr. Kelly was put into his place on Rs. 250 per month. But this did not satisfy Mr. Sandell. Shortly after, Mr. Eagles, Assistant Comptroller, went on leave. The pay of this post is Rs. 500 to Rs. 600 per month. Mr. Sandell deputed Babu Uma Charan Das, Deputy Comptroller, to discharge the duties of this post, and appointed Mr. Kelly to officiate as Deputy Comptroller. The pay of the Deputy Comptroller is Rs. 900 per month. Thus to make room for his pet, Mr. Sandell deputed an officer in receipt of a higher salary to do the duties of a lower post.

As for Mr. Kelly himself, it need only be mentioned that he has betrayed a total ignorance of the duties of the post of Deputy Comptroller, and seeks to make up for his ignorance by committing all sorts of oppressions upon the native clerks. Within 18 days he has fined 28 clerks in a department in which during the last 5 years only 18 men were fined. The other day he ordered

DAINIK  
BHARAT MITRA,  
Nov. 24th, 1895.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Nov. 25th, 1895.

SULABH DAINIK.



a Bengali clerk to be pulled by the ear because he could not bring some papers as quickly as Mr. Kelly wanted them to be brought.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 25th, 1895.

79. Mr. Westmacott, observes the *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 25th November, says in his Annual Administration Report that Babu Rajkishor Mondal of the 24-Parganas district is known as an oppressive zamindar. Has

Mr. Westmacott and Bengal zamindars.

Mr. Westmacott anything to prove the truth of this statement? Is it right to base such remarks in an official document on mere rumour? One who can make such damaging statements against a person without any proof can be prosecuted for libel. Babu Devendra Nath, another zamindar, was prosecuted for rioting, but was honourably acquitted. Still Mr. Westmacott is pleased to observe that the zamindar appears to have been guilty. What right has Mr. Westmacott to call in question the innocence of a man who has been acquitted by a law court? Sir Charles Elliott has given Mr. Westmacott great indulgence, and he now thinks the whole world to be beneath his notice. He is creating disaffection among the people by his overbearing conduct. In any other country in the British empire Mr. Westmacott would have been simply pilloried.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA.

80. Referring to Mr. Westmacott's strictures on the Native Press, the same

Mr. Westmacott and the Native Press.

paper observes that everybody ought to mark how dangerous sentiments does the Commissioner of a Division entertain. He takes for granted that there are many among the people who are discontented and disloyal, and that it is the Native Press that teaches them to look upon the British Government as their enemy. Can Mr. Westmacott point to a single line or sentence in the Native Press in which an attempt has been made to create disaffection among the people, or in which the British Government has been represented as their enemy? Mr. Westmacott knows how to sail with the current. Sir Charles Elliott abuses the Native Press, and so do the Commissioners and Magistrates. Mr. Westmacott, however, will very probably have to change his tone under Sir Alexander Mackenzie. During the rule of Sir Rivers Thompson the Native Press used to be abused, but the tone was changed during the rule of Sir Steuart Bayley. Mr. Westmacott is a big official, but he has a very small mind.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 26th, 1895.

81. Referring to the sitting of the Royal Commission of Enquiry into Indian Expenditure, the *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 26th November observes that no good is likely to come out of it. The pruning knife will never be

The Royal Commission of Enquiry into Indian Expenditure.

applied to such items of expenditure as the military expenditure, compensation allowance to European officials, &c., &c. Some necessary items of expenditure may be pruned down. If, however, the Commission act with impartiality and justice, some savings may be effected.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA.

82. The same paper observes that there is not a more miserable human

Rigorous Administration of justice and the Deputy Magistrate.

being in existence than the Deputy Magistrate. He has to compromise his conscience and do the biddings of the Magistrate. This is clearly proved by Babu Parvati Charan Rai, a retired Deputy Magistrate, in an article published in a recent issue of *India*. Parvati Babu gives a vivid account of the ill-treatment he received at the hands of Mr. Baker while he was the Deputy Magistrate of Alipur and the latter the Magistrate of that place. There are many Bakers in this country, and the number of rampant Magistrates like Mr. Baker is growing under the rule of Sir Charles Elliott. The retiring Lieutenant-Governor has done many things to increase the rigour of the administration of justice and embolden the executive officers in their wrong doing. The people expect that the new Lieutenant-Governor will set these matters right. One is, however, led to think that rigorous administration of justice has almost grown to be a policy of the British Government in India. And there is reason to fear that this underlying principle will not be changed, although in some instances sympathetic Governors may somewhat tone down the rigour of the administration.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Nov. 26th, 1895.

83. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 26th November says that Mr. Kelly of the

Mr. Sandell, Comptroller, Postal Accounts, India.

office of the Comptroller of Postal Accounts has laid down that the clerks of the office will be allowed only 15 minutes for tiffin and answering calls of nature. If at any other time a clerk has to go out he must first get the permission



of the Superintendent of his branch. The Comptroller's office is thus going to be turned into a *pathsala*, and the clerks are looked upon as no better than mischievous urchins reading there. Mr. Sandell is a patron of Mr. Kelly. Many anonymous letters have been addressed to him complaining against his favourite. This seems to have toned down Mr. Kelly's temper a little, but Mr. Sandell is indignant, and he says that if this state of things goes on, he will punish the clerks by not recommending an increase of pay in the case of any one of them. It is a matter of regret that Mr. Sandell instead of taking the offending Mr. Kelly to task, should vent his spleen on the inoffensive clerks.

84. Mr. Kelly, observes the *Sulabh Dainik* of the 28th November, has one, and only one, friend in Mr. Sandell, who is his great patron. He has no one else to speak a word for him. Even Nero had his friends and Louis XIV was not friendless, but Mr. Kelly has no one whom he can call his friend. So much for Mr. Kelly's popularity. As for his ability, it is well known how he acquitted himself in the Military Examiner's office, and latterly as a postal Superintendent. He is now drawing a pay of Rs. 900 a month, simply for the purpose, it appears, of making queries, pulling clerks by the ear, and otherwise ill-treating them! The Government should demand an explanation from Mr. Sandell.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Nov. 28th, 1895.

### III.—LEGISLATIVE.

85. The *Bankura Darpan* of the 16th November says that enhancement of sentence on appeal and the barbarous system of appeal against acquittals exist only in India. Formerly any appellate court had the power to enhance a sentence passed by a lower court, but that power has been taken away. And now that an amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure is in contemplation it is hoped that appeals by Government against acquittals will also be abolished.

Opportunity should also be taken to repeal the Consent Act, which, except as a means of harassing innocent husbands, has almost become a dead-letter.

86. Hearing it rumoured that the Pilgrim Ships Act will be reconsidered by the Viceregal Council, the *Hublul Mateen* of the 20th November draws its attention to the fact that the Indian pilgrims to Mecca do not, as is generally supposed, carry with them the germs of cholera, but contract the disease in the quarantine island of Camaran, where they get nothing but impure water to drink and nothing but noxious food to eat. The authorities of that island should therefore be required to provide a supply of wholesome food and pure water for the pilgrims.

BANKURA DARPAN,  
Nov. 16th, 1895.

HUBLUL MATEEN,  
Nov. 20th, 1895.

### IV.—NATIVE STATES.

87. The *Dainik Bharat Mitra* of the 22nd November has the following :—  
The Native Princes of India are mere puppets in the hands of their English Political Agents. No sooner is a Political Agent appointed to a State, than he causes the dismissal of its faithful *Dewan* and *Musahibs*, and appoints on handsome salary his friends and *protegés* in their place. The Political Agent compel the Rajas to put their sons under European tutors. Under such tutors the princes begin to imitate European vices, and ultimately become perfectly unfit for the management of their States.

The present rulers of Indore, Patiala, and Kapurthala are instances in point. When a native prince dies the Political Agent keeps the strictest watch over his moveable and immoveable property, keeping the Raj family in a state of confinement. The thrones of Jodhpur and Nrisinggudh have fallen vacant by the death of their rulers. It is hoped that the Government of Lord Elgin will be careful in dealing with these States.

88. The *Bangavasi* of the 23rd November observes that English officials are at liberty to act as they like so far as they are concerned with the government of the country. But they should not venture to interfere with the social and religious customs of the people. Mr. Vincent, the Political Agent in

DAINIK  
BHARAT MITRA,  
Nov. 22nd 1895.

BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 23rd, 1895.

Mr. Kelly, Officiating Deputy  
Comptroller, Post Office.

Two amendments proposed in  
the criminal law.

The Pilgrim Ships Act.

Political Agents and Native  
Princes.

Mr. Vincent and social reform  
in Rewa.



Rewa, is bent upon introducing reforms in the Rewa State. The motive of Mr. Vincent is no doubt commendable, but he is nobody to interfere with the social customs of the Hindus. He is likely to commit mistakes in introducing social reforms in Rewa. The Government should plainly tell this to Mr. Vincent.

#### V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

SAHACHAR,  
Nov. 20th, 1895.

89. A Midnapore correspondent of the *Sahachar* of the 20th November says that not only are the people of Midnapore, Ghatal and Chandpur suffering from malarial fever, but the poor are living on one insufficient meal a day. The water scarcity is not less severe, and the prospects of the crops are also very gloomy.

#### VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

BANKURA DARPAN,  
Nov. 16th, 1895.

90. The *Bankura Darpan* of the 16th November says that on the night of the 6th November last, one Sibū Metya enticed away one Giris Mandal of village Narara in the Bankura district. Giris' father says that on enquiry he has found that Sibū has left his son in a cooly depôt.

DACCA PRAKASH,  
Nov. 16th, 1895.

91. The *Dacca Prakash* of the 17th November writes as follows:—  
Though the educated inhabitants of Christian countries are gradually becoming atheists, the Government and the Christian Missionaries in this country are doing their best to convert the natives to Christianity. But the writer can assure the Missionaries that most people whom they have hitherto succeeded in converting have accepted Christianity not because they believe it to be the true religion, but because they believe that it will help to bring them worldly advantages. This will be proved by comparing the statistics of crime among the Christians and the Hindus respectively in proportion to the population, and by comparing the religions of the prisoners. As a matter of fact, by the dissemination of English education and the propagation of Christianity among the people, the Government and the Missionaries are only making them godless and more wicked, and are thus doing an injury not only to the country but to themselves also. But the Missionaries cannot forego their profession, because they can obtain material advantages by increasing the number of Christian converts.

The writer is not much afraid of male Missionaries, but he fears that the temptations which will be held out both to men and women in this country by female Missionaries, who are being sent out in gradually increasing numbers, will prove too strong for them. Many native youths have already been known to accept Christianity under the temptation of marrying European ladies, though in the end they have rued their apostasy.

DACCA PRAKASH.

92. The same paper says that cholera has been raging with such virulence in Kaliganj in the Dacca district, that the local munsifi, among whose peons six deaths have occurred, has been closed for fifteen days. The disease is also raging in Dacca and Narayanganj towns.

DACCA PRAKASH.

93. The same paper endorses Mr. Oldham's opinion regarding the Bengali newspaper *Tripura Prakash* published in Comilla. The writer long ago pointed out that the paper had been started with some evil motive. And he is now glad to find that Government has come to see it. In the course of any of its articles on the administration of the Tippera State, the paper has not indicated a single reform which the Maharaja might adopt, or referred to any specific anomalies in the administration to which Government might direct its attention. It is simply cowardice on the part of the writer of the articles to attack the present officers of the State, who are doing their best to neutralise the evil consequences of the acts of their self-seeking predecessors in office.

CHINSURA  
VARTABAH,  
Nov. 17th, 1895.

94. The *Chinsura Vartabaha* of the 17th November has the following:—  
There are many who speak disparagingly of Englishmen and unjustly find fault with the British Government in India. We do not think this to be



at all proper or advisable. There may be many points in British rule which deserve censure. It is true there are many acts of oppression and injustice which are perpetrated by the British Government, but that is no reason why we should lose our confidence in the beneficence of the British rule. Englishmen are our rulers and we the subject people, and whatever good they do to us we must look upon as a great favour and be satisfied with it. We have no reason to complain. For never in the history of the human race has a foreign Government tried to promote the welfare of the subject people at the cost of its own interests. Whatever good it has done to the people subject to its rule it has done only to strengthen its hold on them. It is unnatural and unreasonable to expect more from a foreign Government. And it betrays ignorance and foolishness on our part that in season and out of season we pray the Government to grant us new rights and privileges. If we had been really destined to enjoy powers and privileges, why should our country have been conquered by a foreign people? We are a conquered people and our rulers belong to an alien race. It is not therefore unnatural that they should not always find themselves in a position to listen to our prayers or grant them. And we on our part would have found in this no cause for regret and disappointment if the English Government had not at first made any promises holding out bright prospects of beneficent rule, and then violated those promises without hesitation. The civilised British Government gave us reason to expect a good deal from it, but our expectation has been sadly falsified. And such is our misfortune that in our case nectar has turned into poison and the fragrant sandal tree into a thorny plant.

But still we have been enjoying many blessings, many rare privileges under the British rule, the most important of which is the liberty we enjoy in practising our religion without let or hindrance. We never enjoyed this liberty under the Musulman rule. But the regret is that owing to the ill-treatment, injustice, and persecution which is now suffered by the natives at the hands of some short-sighted English officials, the seeds of disunion have been sown broadcast among the people of India. The consequence of this short-sighted policy may prove disastrous and may in future shake the British Government to its foundation. We therefore humbly pray the Government to give these short-sighted English officials a timely warning. We cannot bear that through the fault of a handful of English officials the whole English nation should be stigmatised in the world, and the British Government in India should suffer in the estimation of the people.

95. The same paper observes that oppression of Indians by Englishmen has almost become an incident of every day occurrence. It seems to be a pastime to some Europeans

Rampant Europeans.

CHINSURA  
VARTABAH.  
Nov. 17th, 1895.

will-treat and persecute innocent Indians. In the law court, in the street, on railway, in theatre—everywhere Indians are seen to be ill-treated by Europeans. Such oppression is rare in the metropolis. But in the mufassal it has become thoroughly unbearable. There oppression by the Englishman is most rampant. There his will is law. In persecuting the village people he makes no distinction between rich and poor, high and low. The European out hunting rides through the corn-field of the innocent peasant, his corn is trampled under the feet of the rider's horse, but he must not murmur, must not protest, or he runs the risk of being shot down. The European hunter may shoot down sacred bulls and peacocks and thus wound the religious susceptibilities of the people, but still they must not protest. The European official goes out touring in the mufassal, and the village people must bring him his provisions any how. If he feels thirsty, you must procure him milk, and if you fail to do so he will strip you of your skin by the application of his horse whip. If the overworked *punkha* cooly falls into a nap, the European becomes restless in his bed and with his booted feet he kicks at him and frequently kicks him to death. If the Englishman is prosecuted he easily gets his release on the plea of accidental death due to the rupture of the spleen. If you come across a European in the street, you must not fail to do him obeisance. If you have a carriage and if an Englishman wants it you must unhesitatingly give it over to him for his use. These are but few of the instances of the oppression committed almost every day by Europeans upon the poor Indians. Is there no remedy for this evil? The people have times without number prayed the



Government to redress these grievances, but it has always turned a deaf ear to their prayers. Will the Government never take pity on the oppressed people?

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Nov. 21st, 1895.

96. Indian agitation against official measures, observes the *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 21st November, used to bear fruit in days gone by. It bears no fruit in these days.

*Futility of Indian agitation.* Formerly the authorities in India followed the policy of administration which was in vogue in England. The home authorities are bound to respect public opinion, and so the authorities in India used at first to respect Indian public opinion. But they have since discovered the stuff of which the Indian people are made, and they do no longer think it necessary to pay the least heed to the opinion of the Indian people. This has been proved almost times without number. This was proved in the cases of the Consent Act, the Police Act, and the Drainage Act, and will most likely be proved also in the cases of the Jury and the Legal Practitioners Bills. In the case of the Ilbert Bill and also of the Jury Notification the authorities had to yield, simply because in those cases it was the opinion of the Anglo-Indian community that the authorities had to contend with. Pure native opinion counts for nothing in the eye of the authorities in India.

It may be that if the people refrain from agitating for sometime, the authorities may be induced to change their policy of administration. Agitation being put a stop to, the authorities may cease to be irritated and may consequently be induced to soften the rigour of the administration. The silence of the people may also excite their fear. For it is the empty vessel that sounds much, and the vessel that does not sound may be expected to contain some substance within it.

The policy at present followed by Indian agitators of the Congress school is not sound. It is not likely that empty agitation, not backed by anything which may inspire fear or command respect, will force an eminently practical people like the English to grant them rights and privileges. The Indian agitation does not rouse the fear of the authorities, and they do not therefore care to respect it. The consequence is that such agitation only serves to increase their obstinacy and create something like a spirit of rivalry between the rulers and the ruled. Whatever therefore may be the consequence of Indian agitation in future, it is at present doing the Indian people incalculable mischief. And the policy therefore which should at present be followed by Indian politicians is not to irritate the officials by carrying on empty agitation, but to keep them in humour, to flatter them, to belaud their doings—in short, to fool them to the top of their bent.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA.

97. Russia, observes the same paper, is a sworn enemy of England. But such is the greed of Englishmen that English merchants do not even hesitate to indirectly help their enemy in carrying out her design against England. Russia is constructing railways and canals in Central Asia, and English merchants are eager to supply her with the necessary materials. The construction of railways and canals in Central Asia will serve to enrich Russia and increase her strength. But the English merchants and manufacturers heed this not. Their love for lucre is phenomenal. The character of the English people is a mystery to the Indians. It is difficult to understand of what stuff the English people are made. No Indian would have ever dreamt of thus helping the enemy of England in carrying out her evil designs. He, on the other hand, would have tried his best to defeat the ends of Russia. It is said that an English barrister, if paid, would plead even on behalf of a thief who had stolen his own property, and would perhaps defend in a law court even his own son's murderer. There is not a more faithful worshiper of mammon than an Englishman. The ancestors of Englishmen were poor and used to cover themselves with the skins of animals. Is this the reason why they are so fond of money?

PRATIKAR,  
Nov. 22nd, 1895.

98. The *Pratihar* of the 22nd November writes as follows:—  
*The Congress and the officials.* While Her Majesty has been assuring all classes of her Indian subjects of equal and impartial treatment, and has been instructing her officers to rule them all according to one law, without distinction of caste or creed, her Anglo-Indian subjects have become anxious to maintain their position as conquerors, and have thus created a



serious difficulty in the administration of the country. The fire which has thus been kindled by the collision of interests between the conquerors and the conquered has assumed dimensions too vast for even Her Majesty to quench. One result of this collision of interests has been the establishment of the National Congress by the conquered people. Some officials, misunderstanding the aims and objects of the movement during the first year of its existence, looked upon it with an eye of favour. But they were soon disabused. Finding in the Congress an enemy to their unlimited and irresponsible power, they assumed a new attitude. Lord Dufferin could not suppress his feelings, but vented his spleen against the Congress in terms which created a wide breach between the rulers and the ruled. Thus Her Majesty's servants set at naught her instructions; but considering the times they did not venture to show open hostility, but adopted a covert policy. The subject-people, on the other hand, having learnt how to fight for their own cause, carried their agitation for their rights and privileges to the British Parliament. This made the officials extremely angry, and led them to adopt a subtle policy for checking the ambition of the people—the policy, that is, of creating division among them by not treating all classes of them with equal favour and justice. Internal dissensions have been the cause of India's downfall, and the rulers had no difficulty in perceiving that nothing would make the people so weak as internal quarrels among themselves, and that their object would be gained by setting the Hindus and the Musalmans by the ears. Musalmans were accordingly encouraged by favours, and set against the Congress. Official opposition to the Congress increased the discontent of the people, and no one knows where it will end. The only hope of the people lies in the sense of justice of the British Parliament. Oppression may keep the people quiet for a time, because they know that unless they remain quiet, worse may follow. But it is expected that the rulers will see their mistake.

99. The *Banganivasi* of the 22nd November observes that the export of

Export of food-grains a cause  
of famine and scarcity.

food-grains is impoverishing the people and is one of the principal causes of the chronic prevalence of famine and scarcity in the country. It is true that

the sale of food-grains to foreign merchants brings to the Indian peasants some money. But this money is soon spent in meeting additional expenditure caused by enhanced prices of commodities and the growing use of articles of luxury imported from foreign countries, and also in paying the taxes. The spirit of litigation is also growing in the country, and some portion of the money is spent in litigation. Thus in the long run the peasants are impoverished and half starved by exporting food-grains from the country.

100. Referring to Mr. Balfour's remark that the Chitral war has maintained

Official prestige.

the prestige of the British Government in India, but for which the continuance of British rule

in India is impossible, the same paper observed that this official love of prestige has proved disastrous to the country. It is this official prestige which was maintained at all hazards in passing the Consent Act in the teeth of public opposition, in making the Afghan and the Manipur wars, and also in such small instances as the Hardwar *méla*, and the cases of Messrs. Phillips and Radice. But does the maintenance of this prestige really serve to strengthen the foundation of British rule in India? It is not this physical prestige that is calculated to strengthen the foundation of the British Empire in India. It is the moral force to which Burke referred—the prestige, that is, which is founded on the everlasting principles of humanity that will maintain British supremacy in this country.

101. The *Hitavadi* of the 22nd November says:—

The Lieutenant-Governor.

On the 18th December next the Lieutenant-Governor will sail away with his family from Bengal, in the *City of Calcutta*. So we shall escape from the hands of this kind Governor if we can only manage to get through another month. He goes this time at the expense of the State, and will not have therefore to beg the Steamer Company for a reduction of fare—a favour which he solicited of the Railway Company when he last went home on leave. We shall feel relieved if on an auspicious day and at an auspicious hour His Honour

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leaves this country without committing further oppression and showing further partiality.

HITAVADI,  
Nov. 22nd, 1895.

102. The same paper writes as follows:—

The Higher Training Society  
and Sir Charles Elliott.

Mr. Wilson, it is said, will present Sir Charles Elliott with a farewell address in the name of the Higher Training Society. The students are thus being taught to flatter from their earliest youth, and this is called higher training. Whatever wrong Sir Charles may have done to the country he has shown great love for the students; if he has robbed Peter, he has paid Paul, and a farewell address must therefore be presented to him. If any student says: "We are presenting this address as students and not as Bengalis," we shall know that he has parted with the last vestiges of manliness. If not even one student of the Higher Training Society protests against Mr. Wilson's presenting Sir Charles with an address in their name, we shall know that the students who belong to that society are quite worthless.

SANJIVANI,  
Nov. 23rd, 1895.

103. The *Sanjivani* of the 23rd November has the following in an allegorical article on the deliverance of India and how to effect it:—

The deliverance of India.

In course of time a band of merchants came to the territory of the venerable old lady and humbly begged her to grant them shelter in a small corner of her extensive empire. After a short residence in the country, however, these shrewd foreign merchants discovered that the old lady's sons were divided against themselves and were swayed by jealousy. Taking advantage of their weakness the foreign merchants gradually made them their slaves, and became the masters of the country. The old lady's sons began to be oppressed, persecuted and trampled under foot. The old lady was now on her death bed. Her sons and daughters sat round her and tried every means to revive her. But their prayers and lamentations availed nothing. At last a son came and with his heart's blood saved the life of his mother. This is the way we, too, should follow in our attempt to deliver mother India. Nothing but the heart's blood of her sons can effect her deliverance.

BANGAVASI,  
Nov. 23rd, 1895.

104. The *Bangavasi* of the 23rd November has the following in an article on the Congress:—

The uselessness of the Congress.

We do not want the Congress, for it is not likely to serve any earthly purpose. The policy of administration which the British Government should follow in India is shaped in England, and it will continue to be so shaped so long as the British rule in India lasts. You may cry yourself hoarse, you may get yourself blind by shedding tears. But the British policy will not change. It is the belief of many Babu politicians and Babu papers that our purpose will be served by agitation, by fruitless agitation; that is to say, by crying in season and out of season for rights and privileges. But these men never think for a moment that Englishmen are not fools or simple-minded children that you should threaten or coax them into granting you rights and privileges.

Let us think for a moment what the Congress has done during the last few years of its existence. Has it achieved any great purpose? Has it been able to get the Government to listen to its prayers in a single instance? No. It is true that in some instances the British Government has shown some respect to the representations of the British Committee of the Congress. But here we have Englishmen paying some respect to the opinion of Englishmen, and for this the Congress—the native section, that is, of the Congress—has no reason to take any credit to itself. A number of Englishmen sitting in Parliament agreed with the British Committee of the Congress that Civil Service examinations should be held simultaneously in India and England, and they passed a resolution accordingly. But English public opinion seemed to be against or at least indifferent about this resolution, and it was at once consigned to oblivion. It is quite clear, therefore, that the opinion of the British Congress Committee deserves some consideration in England simply because the Committee consists of Englishmen, and its opinion is the opinion of Englishmen. But even the British Congress Committee has so far achieved no great object. Do not, then, speak of the native section of the Congress. It is absolutely worthless in the eye of the English people. Its representations are never likely to be heard in England.



That the opinion of the Indian people has no value whatever in the eye of the British Government has been proved many a time. During the Consent Act agitation the whole country was thrown into excitement. But the united opinion of the Indian people was not worth a straw in the eye of the Government. Is not this sufficient to teach us a lesson? What, again, was the case when the Drainage Act was passed? You are now allowed to elect representatives for the Legislative Councils. But did the voice of your representatives avail anything? The Government has done you the favour of allowing some men chosen by you to sit in the Legislative Councils. It has done so not in deference to the opinion of the Congress, but to serve its own purpose best. It has given you an empty privilege and no power. After this speak of the utility of the Congress!

We have said times without number that the voice of the Indian people is not likely to change in the least the settled policy of the British Government in India. It never has been nor ever can be the intention of the British Government to do any harm to the Indian people. It is always bent upon promoting their welfare, but it has its own ways of promoting it. This is human nature, this is the way of the world, and you cannot blame the British Government because it follows its own ways and not yours in every thing that it does.

In short, we think the Congress to be a farce. It is the making of a number of Englishmen. But why should we follow them and mix ourselves up in English party politics? Let the rulers have their way in governing the country, and let the consequences of their Government be as they may. We are bound to reap as we have sown. Our *adrishta* (past acts) must bear its fruits. The *shastras* do not advise us to hold Congress meetings. We do many things which are not enjoined by the *shastras*; but because we do many things that are wrong, is it right that we should do many things more that are equally objectionable in their nature?

105. The same paper says that a virulent type of cholera has broken out in Kotchandpore Jayadia, a village in the Jessore district. The mortality is heavy. The want of proper medical treatment is keenly felt. The authorities should send a competent medical practitioner to this village and thus save many lives.

Cholera has also broken out in Batiamari in Goalpara, Assam, and is carrying away hundreds of people. The Rani of Bijni has sent a medical practitioner to treat the patients, but he is not able to cope with all the cases.

106. The *Chinsura Vartavaha* of the 24th November writes as follows:—

The English Government in India.

It is a folly to object to or be dissatisfied with what the English Government may do in order to increase the efficiency of the administration or to promote the welfare of the State. The Indian people are loyal to the backbone. They are great admirers of the virtues of the British nation, and they never do nor ever will wish them ill. It is the bounden duty of the British Government to rule the people efficiently and well. For it is the justice and the beneficence of the British rule that has won their obedience and loyalty, and if that rule ceases to be just and beneficent, the people will no longer remain attached to it. But if this attachment between the rulers and the ruled is maintained intact the strength and permanence of the British rule will be ensured. It is a folly to expect that the loyalty of a subject-people will be won, or that a foreign Government will be made permanent by following a policy of distrust and rigorous administration. It is because the British Government was convinced of the truth of these patent principles of administration that it allowed the Indian people to take part in the management of the affairs of the country, and also to acquaint the rulers with their crying wants and grievances. But unfortunately the Indian people are being practically deprived of the power of having a share in the administration of the country. For this we cannot blame the whole English nation. For Her Majesty the Queen-Empress and distinguished English politicians who guide the politics of the English people have often promised to govern the Indian people with an eye to the promotion of their welfare. And if those promises have never been fulfilled in their entirety, it is not the English people, but those who have been entrusted with the government of India, that are to blame. The truth is, that notwithstanding the beneficent character of the British rule and the goodness

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of many Englishmen whose memory will ever remain sacred to the people, that rule is gradually falling in the estimation of the Indian people owing to their ill-treatment by some young, inexperienced, and hot-headed English officials, whose number is unfortunately growing in the land every day. It is therefore urgently necessary that the British Government should keep these erring officials under proper control and put a stop to their vagaries. After the tyranny of the Musalman rule, the people expected a good deal from the British Government, and if their expectation is falsified, they will naturally think that fate is not only against them, but is also against the British rule in India.

SULABH DAINIK,  
Nov. 26th, 1895.

107. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 26th November observes that when Sultan Mahmud went away from India, he could not but shed tears at the piles of gold left behind. Sir Charles will soon be politically dead to the people of Bengal. He will be divested of his powers and privileges. Will he too not shed tears?

SULABH DAINIK.

108. The same paper says that the Bengal Pandits lately held a meeting at the house of Babu Govinda Chandra Dutt of Cornwallis Street. The chair was occupied by Babu Nilmani Mukharji Nyayalankar. At this meeting it was resolved that the Bengal Pandits should present a farewell address to the Lieutenant-Governor. A few Pandits raised a dissentient voice. But the Chairman argued that Sir Charles Elliott had done much to encourage Sanskrit learning by sanctioning Rs. 18,000 a year for the foundation of scholarships, &c., and that the Pandits should express their gratitude for this act of the Lieutenant-Governor. Babu Nilmani is himself in the employ of the Government: he is the Principal of the Sanskrit College and the author of *Manimanjari*. And it is therefore natural that he should argue in this way. But to tell the truth, the official encouragement of Sanskrit learning has done incalculable mischief to the country. The Pandits are no longer independent religious guides of the people, as they used to be before, but are paid servants of the Government, and they have been made use of as tools in curtailing the Puja holidays and passing the Consent Act. The official encouragement of Sanskrit learning has not been purely disinterested, and a decline of Sanskrit learning would be far more preferable than this official patronage. What, moreover, have the Pandits to do with such a purely political affair as the presentation of a farewell address to a retiring Lieutenant-Governor?

#### URIYA PAPERS.

URIYA AND NAVASAM-  
VAD.  
Oct. 16th, 1895.

109. Referring to the decrease in the quantity of salt consumed every year in the Balasore district, the *Uriya and Navasamvad* of the 16th October observes that smuggling cannot be the only, or the important cause of such decrease, which can only be explained by connecting it with an important economical cause, namely, the poverty of the people, that plays so important a part in moulding the objects and aspirations of native life in India. The writer points out that the ordinary meals of the natives are becoming simpler and poorer day by day, and that extraordinary dinners served on occasions of marriage, *utsavs*, and other religious observances are becoming less sumptuous day by day. Consequently the consumption of every article of food, of which salt is the most important, must decrease with the decline of the prosperity of the people.

UTKALDIPKA,  
Oct. 19th, 1895.

110. The *Utkal Dipika* of the 19th October is sorry to notice that Mr. Maude, the Collector of Cuttack, passes over the claims of apprentices serving in his office when temporary vacancies occur. Even the temporary posts in the Road Cess Department were all made over to outsiders to the great disappointment of the apprentices, who have been working regularly in his office without pay or remuneration. The writer hopes that such injustice will not be repeated in the future.

NARAYAN CHANDRA BHATTACHARYYA,

Offg. Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,  
The 30th November, 1895.